

BLACKBOARD OUTLINES

GEORGE A. CRAPULLO

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Presented by the
Christian Endeavor Society
United Brethren Church
Owensdale, Pennsylvania

BLACKBOARD OUTLINES

Blackboard Outlines

Through Eye and Ear to Heart and Mind

By
GEORGE A. CRAPULLO, B. D.

Introduction by
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Superintendent New York City Mission Society

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Dedicated
to
MISS FRANCES M. CARTER



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INTRODUCTION

EVERY book worth while makes a particular appeal. The value of this handbook is in its appeal to that large and rapidly increasing number of persons interested in religious education. Supplementing the church school are clubs of various kinds, week-day classes and vacation schools wherein the teaching of moral and spiritual truths has a large place. For such supplementary teaching the talks in this manual are admirably adapted. They were given in the classroom and there met with favour. They are short, comprehensive, suggestive and adaptable. They may be used in their present form or expanded to meet requirements. These two characteristics—simplicity and expansibility—commend them to many teachers who need just such material but who, because of the pressure of many duties, find it difficult always to work out for themselves desired lesson outlines. Those accustomed to using the blackboard will recognize the value of the suggested outlines, while the novice, with very little practice, will be able easily to reproduce them. To both classes of teachers they will suggest other talks that may

readily be developed. To his many fellow workers who are using eye-gate in the endeavour to bring religious truth to the comprehension of boys and girls these talks are heartily recommended by

A. H. McKINNEY

New York

PREFACE

THESE outlines and talks come from the writer's experience as a church school superintendent and have been prepared to meet an ever-increasing need of religious instructors of children and young people—the need of material which will gain and keep the interest of the pupils and make the truth taught a vital part of their lives.

The book is divided into two parts: Part I—Blackboard Outlines; Part II—Cut-Out Talks. The outlines in Part I are simple; every talk seeks to establish a point of contact with the pupils by referring to some concrete fact—such as an interesting incident or useful bit of information—and then leads to the moral or spiritual impression. Wherever possible the talk ends with an appropriate Bible verse to clinch the truth. In Part II the cut-out talks are developed in accordance with the principle used in Part I but they have two added features—the elements of anticipation and surprise.

The cut-out talks take a little more time in preparation but one is well repaid for the effort by the close attention and keen interest of the pupils. They are prepared as follows: Every

talk (except the one on "The Magic Word—'Now'") requires two large sheets of paper; one being placed over the other. On the upper sheet, faintly outlined and only visible to the speaker, are the figure or words to be drawn or printed as the talk develops; on the lower sheet appear the words which are disclosed when the cut-out is made. The position of the words on the lower sheet is determined by means of pin-holes made through the upper sheet. To illustrate, take the talk on "A Sinful Heart Made Clean," page 121. On the upper sheet a heart is sketched very lightly. This sheet is placed corner to corner over the second sheet. Sufficient pin-holes are then made to indicate on the lower sheet the exact outline of the heart. Within this space is printed the name Jesus. With upper and lower sheets coinciding the two are tacked to a black-board or any other suitable stand. Now you are ready for the talk. At the proper time you draw the heart, going over the light sketch; you add the printed words and you make the cut-out. (All these steps are indicated in context.) When the cut-out is made—this is done with a sharp penknife—there will appear a clean heart with Jesus in it as shown in Fig. 3 on page 123.

When words are used in a talk care should be exercised to make sufficient allowance for the cut-out where the corresponding word on the

lower sheet is larger than on the upper sheet. For example in the talk on "Freedom Through the Truth," page 137, the word Freedom on the second sheet is much larger than the word Envy on the first sheet. In order that Freedom may stand out clearly the place to cut should be indicated on upper sheet. This can be done by light pencil marks.

G. A. C.

Endicott, New York

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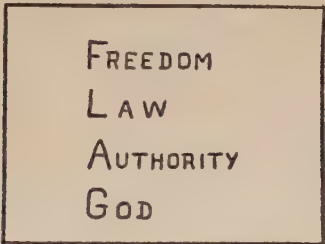
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PART I
BLACKBOARD OUTLINES

I

THE FLAG—A PATRIOTIC TALK



FREEDOM
LAW
AUTHORITY
GOD

WE all love this beautiful flag (hold up a small American flag). For the sake of this flag men and women have endured untold hardships at home and in foreign lands. To add glory to our flag, no sacrifice would seem too great. There is not a boy or girl in this room who would not gladly give all that he or she possesses, to save it from dishonour. What is the reason that the flag is so dearly loved? To look at it, it is no different from any other ordinary piece of cloth. The flag I have is so small I can hide it in my hand. I can buy another one just like it for ten cents. The value of the flag is decided not by what it is, but by the things for which it stands. The American flag stands for some things that

are precious to men. One of the things for which our flag stands is FREEDOM (print). Where this flag flies every man, woman, and child, is free to live as he pleases so long as he does not interfere with the comfort, happiness or freedom of others. It stands not only for the freedom of people in America, but for freedom for all the peoples of the world.

And then, our flag stands for LAW (print). Laws are needed wherever many people live close together to keep them from hurting, annoying or endangering one another, often when they do not mean to. Every one is happier and better satisfied for every good law we have. A good citizen, a boy or girl who loves the flag, remembers to respect and obey the laws for which it stands. The flag also stands for AUTHORITY (print and expand) to enforce the law.

Last of all, and best of all, our flag stands for God (print). It is truly He that hath made and preserved us a nation. God is the foundation of our government. He is the source of our strength and power. So long as we keep ourselves and our nation true to Him we need never fear for our glorious flag.

Love the flag (print initial letters in red), boys and girls. Live to honour it; die, if need be, to preserve it. Be loyal, not merely to the bit of cloth, beautiful though it is. Be loyal to the more

beautiful things for which it stands—the principles and ideals about which we have been thinking. It requires no effort to salute the flag and pledge allegiance to it in the schoolroom. The test of our loyalty comes in our every-day living when frequently we are brought face to face with powerful temptations to violate the precious ideas and ideals our flag symbolizes—Freedom, Law, Authority and God. (Point to words on board.)

MEMORY VERSE:—“ *I pledge allegiance to my flag, and to the Republic for which it stands; one nation indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.*”

II

JESUS THE GOOD SHEPHERD

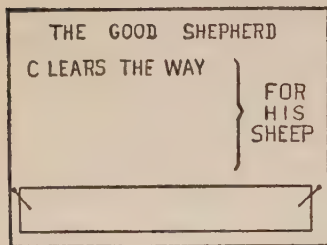


FIG. 1

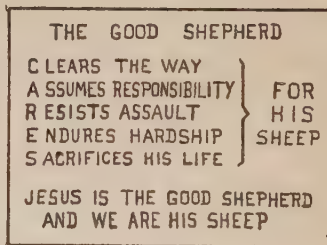


FIG. 2

NOTE:—The last two lines should be covered with a strip of paper to be removed as indicated in talk.

WHO can give me the lesson text? “Jesus is the Good Shepherd.” What is a shepherd? That’s right, a man who takes care of sheep. Probably to most of you the word brings up a picture of a man, or perhaps even a boy or girl, sitting quietly on the grass while the sheep feed peacefully around him. That is a picture of a shepherd in England or America. The picture Jesus had in mind when He said “I am the Good Shepherd” was that of a shepherd in Judea. That is a rougher, less fertile country than ours,

and it means more to be a good Eastern shepherd. Let me tell you some of the things **THE GOOD SHEPHERD** (print as in Fig. 1) in the East does for his sheep.

Grass is not plentiful in Judea and often the flock must go a long distance over stony and difficult roads to find food. The good shepherd goes first and **CLEARs THE WAY—FOR HIS SHEEP** (print as in Fig. 1). Of course the sheep do not know where to go to find the grass they need. It is the shepherd who must lead them to where the pleasant pastures are and where fresh water can be had. The sheep never go hungry. This is not because they hunt for food, but because they trust the shepherd and follow him. The good shepherd **ASSUMES RESPONSIBILITY** (print as in Fig. 2 and expand) for his sheep. But this is not the hardest thing he has to do. Often in those lonely fields the hungry wolf will come down from the hill to kill a lamb, or a thief will try to steal some of the sheep. It is then that the shepherd stands up and shows that he is strong as well as kind. To protect them the good shepherd **RESISTS ASSAULT** (print) for his sheep, and drives the wicked ones away. So you see the life of an Eastern shepherd is not an easy one—toiling up the steep roads, often carrying a tired lamb in his arms, watching over his sheep and fighting for them. Every day the good shep-

herd **ENDURES HARDSHIP** (print) for his sheep. In many instances these shepherds have even sacrificed their lives for their charges. Sometimes a good shepherd is killed by robbers; sometimes he falls over one of the cliffs while hunting in the dark for a lost lamb. Yes, this good shepherd of whom Jesus was thinking even **SACRIFICES HIS LIFE** (print) for his sheep.

All these things (point to board) the good shepherd does. Yet, if I wished to, I might have summed them up in just one word. Here it is (print initial letters red. See Fig. 2). The good shepherd **CARES** for his sheep. (Remove strip of paper and read as in Fig. 2) "**JESUS IS THE GOOD SHEPHERD AND WE ARE HIS SHEEP.**"

MEMORY VERSE:—" *I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.*"
—John 10: 11.

III

THE RESURRECTION (EASTER TALK)

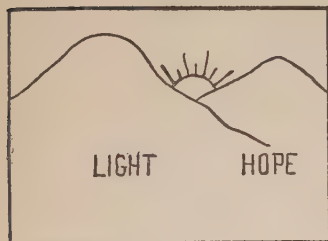


FIG. 1

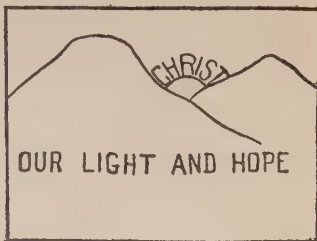


FIG. 2

ONCE when I was in the country I rose early in the morning; so early that it was still dark. Everything seemed dull and dismal; the air was sharp and cold. I was no more cheerful than the morning, for my heart was sad and desponding. But I climbed up the steep road until I reached the top of a high hill. I stood there facing the east, and waited and watched for the rising of the sun. (Draw hills as in Fig. 1.)

Gradually the world became transformed. The air lost its sharpness, the sky changed its heavy gray for pale gold. Everything about me seemed suddenly alive and glad—the leaves whispered,

the birds began to call, and up over the edge of the world came the glorious sun. (Draw as in Fig. 1.) Bye and bye I turned and went down the hill in the warm sunshine, and as I travelled through the pleasant woods my heart sang with the birds. The sun had brought LIGHT (print as in Fig. 1) to the world and HOPE (print as in Fig. 1) to my heart.

Our lesson today tells of how an experience much the same as this came to certain men long ago, and to a woman named Mary Magdalene. They had all been friends of Jesus. He had walked with them and talked with them and they had had good times together. But a dreadful thing had happened. Jesus had been crucified and had died. These people had lost their best friend. They were very sad and sorrowful, and all the world looked dark to them.

Very early in the morning before the sun was up Mary Magdalene went to the sepulchre where Jesus was laid. As she walked she thought mournfully of her dead Lord, and all seemed bleak and hopeless to her. But when she came near the tomb something so glorious happened that it changed the world for her. She met Jesus, alive and well! CHRIST (print as in Fig. 2) was no longer dead but had risen from the grave. His coming filled Mary's soul with joy as the rising of the sun fills the earth with sunshine.

Her heart began to sing and she felt once more the warmth and power of Jesus' love. She went quickly back to the others to tell them the wondrous story, "Christ is risen."

That glorious day changed the world not only for Mary and the disciples, but for you and me as well. Christ is living today. We too may look up and see the risen Lord, and have our hearts filled with His joy and sunshine. Christ is OUR LIGHT AND HOPE (complete as in Fig. 2). He is our light in the dark, dreary hours of sin and temptation. And He is our hope for the life that is and the life that is to come.

MEMORY VERSE:—"Jesus said, . . . *I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live.*"—John 11:25.

IV

CONSCIENCE



FIG. 1

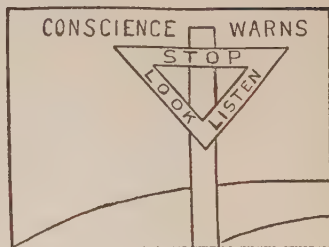


FIG. 2

LAST summer I was motoring with a friend through the Mohawk Valley in the northern part of New York State. In the course of our trip I saw many signboards but there were four or five to which my attention was drawn particularly. I had seen similar signboards many times before in my life but they never held so much interest for me as they did this day. There was nothing extraordinary about them. (Begin to draw as in Fig. 1.) Several pieces of wood, painted white, were nailed together in some such fashion as this. But every time we came in view of such a board my friend would slow up his car, look to the right and to the left, listen attentively

and then when he was satisfied that all was safe he would proceed on his way.

What kind of a signboard do you suppose it was? Yes, it was a danger signboard placed at railroad crossings by the company to warn people not to cross the tracks without being sure that no train was approaching. As a general rule these boards have printing on them. They say "STOP" (print as in Fig. 2, letting the children supply LOOK, LISTEN).

If you care for your life and would avoid disaster, when you see a sign of this sort at a railroad crossing you will stop—look—and listen, even though you feel certain you are safe. Everybody sees these signs, you know, but it is because not everybody obeys them that each year there are so many people maimed or killed in train accidents which might easily have been avoided. People are warned of the danger ahead of them, but they do not heed the warning and they come to grief.

This is only one of many kinds of danger signals. Who can name some of them? (Auto horns, red lights, bells, etc.) No one has mentioned the warning that I have been thinking about. It is a safety device that we carry about with us wherever we go, and warns of things even more dangerous than speeding trains or holes in the street. Who can guess what I have in mind?

It is CONSCIENCE (print as in Fig. 2), the surest and best danger signal in the world. Conscience is the voice of God speaking to you when you are in danger of doing or going wrong. It WARNS (print as in Fig. 2) you and says to you, just as the sign at the railroad crossing does, "Stop! Look! Listen!" But alas! how many there are who have ignored this warning and have met with fatal accidents! There is the boy who smoked his first cigarette and when the voice said, "Stop! Look! Listen!" he went right on and today he has a weak heart or impaired lungs or clouded mind. There is the girl who got great satisfaction in questionable pleasure and when she first started out the warning came to her to "Stop! Look! Listen!" but she was sure there was no danger and today she has a dishonoured name.

It pays to stop when you hear that voice within your soul saying, "Don't do that—it is wrong." To heed it means to spare yourself many unhappy moments and wretched hours and to save yourself from moral disaster.

V

THE SUCCESS-PROPELLER

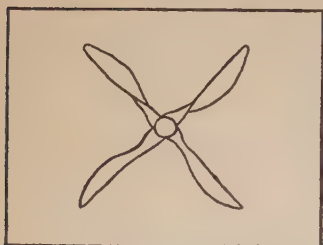


FIG. 1

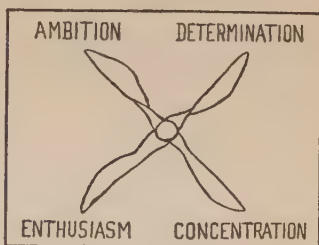


FIG. 2

DID you ever see a motion picture of an aeroplane getting ready to start on a flight? Probably you have, and if so you remember a big arrangement on the plane that looked something like this. (Draw as in Fig. 1.)

It is the propeller. When the aviator is ready to fly, a helper catches hold of one of the blades of the propeller and starts it spinning. The center part or the hub of the propeller is connected by a shaft with the aeroplane's engine, which keeps it whirling. These blades are curved and shaped in such a way that they force the air back, pushing the aeroplane forward. This part of the machine is called the propeller be-

cause it is the part that really propels it, or makes it travel forward. And there is nothing more to it than the blades. If one of the blades were broken, or if anything interfered with it, it would mean that the plane would be retarded or perhaps even wrecked.

Just at present, however, I am less interested in aeroplanes and what makes them go, than I am in boys and girls and what makes them go forward in life. Why is it that some boys and girls go on from one success to another, from one victory to another, while others, who seem to have as good, or better chances, get nowhere, and must be pushed by their parents, teachers or friends? Do you know? I'll tell you. Something is wrong with their propellers! Boys and girls don't have propellers, you say? Ah, but they do; not attached outside, perhaps, but certainly something within them that pushes them, and makes them go forward. One of the blades of this propeller may be called **AMBITION**. (Print as in Fig. 2.) I like to compare that blade to the blade of the aeroplane which the helper catches hold of to start the engine spinning, because a good, healthy ambition is the thing that begins propelling many a boy or girl toward success. (Expand.)

The second blade in the propeller may be called **DETERMINATION**. (Print and expand.)

It is all very well to aspire to some wonderful goal, but unless you grit your teeth, and clench your fist, and determine to get there, you will be like a propeller with only one blade.

Then, of course, if you are to be successful in life, you must be enthusiastic about your aim. Enthusiasm is really a very potent force in pushing people forward to their goal, so I am going to label this blade **ENTHUSIASM**. (Print and expand.)

A common mistake, one which boys and girls very often make, is that of trying to do too many things at once. If you wish to realize your ambition, you must unite every thought, every particle of your effort, upon that one end. This may be called **CONCENTRATION**. (Print and expand.)

And so we have our propeller complete. **AMBITION, DETERMINATION, ENTHUSIASM and CONCENTRATION**: such a wonderful propeller will carry you to almost any height to which you may wish to go.

In all things pertaining to life, Jesus should be our standard. As you study Jesus' life, do you find that He had a great ambition? His was the greatest ambition the world has ever known. His ambition was to redeem the souls of men by leading men from the ways of evil to the pathway of righteousness. It was accom-

panied by a strong determination, a determination so unflinching that nothing, not even the sacrifice of His life, could swerve Him from doing His sacred work. His enthusiasm was boundless. He never lost interest in His task for He loved it intensely. His concentration was so absolute that He often forgot to eat or rest. In using our propeller let us seek to follow Jesus' example. The boy or girl who tries to imitate Jesus is certain to make a success of life.

VI

THE IMPORTANCE OF SMALL THINGS

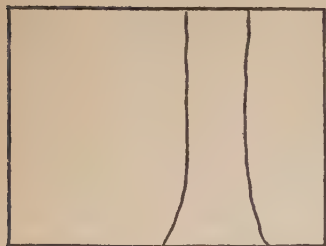


FIG. 1

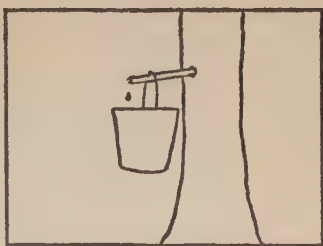


FIG. 2

IF you go to Vermont in the spring one of the things which will interest you will be the sugar maple trees. (Draw as in Fig. 1.) Sugar maples are different from other maple trees in that the sap from them, when refined and boiled down, makes the maple syrup and the maple candy which most children like so well. In the spring-time when the sap begins to rise the farmer goes out into the woods or along the roadside to draw it from the trees. He forces a little pipe (draw as in Fig. 2) into the tree for the sap to run through. This sap flows into a large pail (draw as in Fig. 2), which the farmer suspends from the

pipe. The juice gradually oozes out of the tree and after a time the farmer returns to find his pails full to the top.

I once stood watching the maple sap dripping into a pail and the thing that impressed me most about it was its slowness. There would be one small drop, then a pause, then another tiny drop. It was a tediously long drawn out process. "Why do you use such a large pail?" I asked the farmer. "Surely at the rate that sap is flowing you will never fill it." "That's a twelve-quart pail," replied the farmer, "but it will be overflowing in ten hours. The sap comes drop by drop, but it fills the pail."

That is the story the sugar maple tree has to tell us—drop by drop the measure is filled. Little by little many big things are accomplished in this world. (Expand.)

In our own church school boys and girls sometimes say, "Oh, my cent won't make any difference. I'll spend it." So the cent never reaches the offering basket. Does a cent really make any difference? Does one drop of maple sap make any difference? Suppose the maple tree should say, "Oh, I only give a drop at a time; a drop at a time does not amount to much. I think I won't give any more." How much sap do you think the farmer would get? (Expand.) As drop by drop the pail is filled with sap, so penny

by penny the money is raised to carry on our school, to support our missionaries in far off lands and to help in the work of God's kingdom within our own country. Every penny counts. Taken by itself, like a drop of maple sap, a penny may seem of little value. But if every child in the United States should give just one penny regularly each Sunday, in the course of a year there would be millions of pennies amounting to thousands and thousands of dollars for the Church to use in its noble service to mankind.

VII

BARRIERS TO SUCCESS

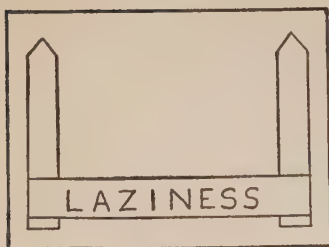


FIG. 1

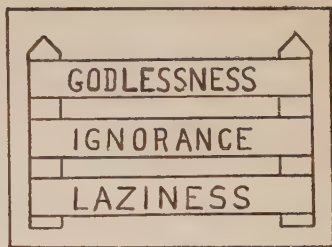


FIG. 2

I IMAGINE every boy and girl here at some time or another has seen a rail fence. Men put up rail fences to keep boys out of apple orchards. Fences are built for many different reasons, but it seems to me that the queerest fence I ever heard of, and the most foolish, was one that a boy built which kept him out—out of something everyone desires. Of course, when he put in the first rail, I do not suppose that boy thought for one moment that he was going to build a fence so high that he would not be able to pass it or get over it. The first rail was LAZINESS. (Draw and print as in Fig. 1 and expand.) The boy was lazy at home. He did not like to work. He

was lazy at school. He would neglect his lessons and comfort himself by saying, "Before the end of the term I'll work hard and catch up." But you know that golden hours, once they pass, can never be found again. This boy had forgotten that. Before long his school days were over; instead of removing the bar of laziness the foolish boy had added to the height of the fence a new rail—IGNORANCE. (Draw and print as in Fig. 2 and expand.) This bar of ignorance shut the poor little lad out from all life's greatest pleasures: from the rich inheritance which the wise men of the ages had bequeathed him, from the joy of companionship with noble minds, and from the road which leads to the high places of the world.

Even then the two bars were not too high for the boy to have climbed over, but his laziness kept him from trying and his ignorance destroyed any desire to go over the fence. He did not stop here. Having put in the rails of laziness and ignorance, it was very easy for him to nail another rail to the top of the fence—GODLESSNESS (complete as in Fig. 2 and expand). This made the fence very high indeed. When the fence reaches such a height as this it is almost impossible for a boy to scale it. So the boy had shut himself out—shut himself from success, happiness and all the good things of life. Thus he spent his

days—surrounded by this impassable fence which he had built himself. Poor, foolish boy! What a great mistake he had made! If this boy had known the verse I am going to ask you to learn he would never have done such an unwise thing as to build a fence which would keep him from reaching success and making his life a useful one in the kingdom of God. This verse is found in the twelfth chapter of Romans, eleventh verse.

MEMORY VERSE:—“*Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord.*”—Romans 12: 11.

VIII

IDOLS OF TODAY

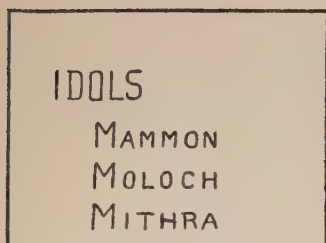


FIG. 1

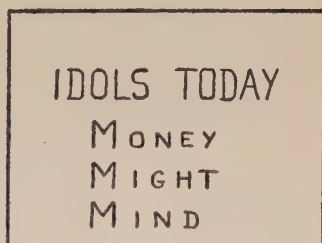


FIG. 2

LONG, long ago, so many years ago that we have lost all record of the exact time, Moses gave to the people of Israel ten rules which he had received from God for them. These rules we know today as the Ten Commandments, and the first of them is, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." This commandment was given to the children of Israel because they were a nation surrounded by neighbours who had never heard of God, but who worshipped things which they made from wood or stone, called IDOLS. (Print as in Fig. 1.) They gave names to these idols and offered many sacrifices to them. One of the names you may remember because Jesus once mentioned it. Who can tell me the name? Yes,

MAMMON. [(Print as in Fig. 1 and expand.) Mammon was supposed to be the god of fulness or riches and many worshipped him. Another god whom these poor, unenlightened people worshipped was **MOLOCH**. (Print as in Fig. 1 and expand.) They imagined that this god enjoyed offerings of human flesh and so every year many children and adults were sacrificed to this cruel deity. Still another god to which many people bowed, especially the Persians, was **MITHRA**, (print as in Fig. 1 and expand) the sun-god or god of wisdom. We might go on and name many more of these ancient gods and you would see that all of them were supposed to be wicked, selfish and cruel. As we think of these gods and what they caused their followers to do it is not strange that the first of the Ten Commandments which God gave His people should warn them against having such idols.

Now I think I hear some wideawake boy say, "That commandment was given for people long ago in a distant land. Nobody in America worships idols. What has all this to do with us?" It is true that no one in America worships Mammon or Moloch or Mithra. Time seems to have swept them away (erase names with the exception of the initial letters, which should remain) just as I have swept their names from the blackboard. But though these have disappeared,

other idols have taken their places TODAY. (Print as in Fig. 2.) It is sad to note that there are people all around us who worship and bow down to gods which they have set up for themselves. Putting God and His love aside they exalt in their stead these worthless, meaningless idols. They reverence and serve them, little realizing that these gods are as cruel, as unrewarding and as useless as Mammon, Moloch or Mithra of old. One of the things which folk make a god of is MONEY. (Print as in Fig. 2 and expand.) There are others who think that the only desirable thing in the world is power. They bend every energy in acquiring it, sacrifice everything to gain it, until at length they have really made MIGHT (print as in Fig. 2 and expand) the idol of their love and worship. Then there are so many who have made the MIND (print as in Fig. 2 and expand) their great idol. The intellect is their all-in-all. To worship such idols as Money, Might and Mind is just as unsatisfying as to worship the unreal gods of earlier days. There is only one true God, the God of our Lord Jesus Christ. He is our Father, who loves us and cares for us.

MEMORY VERSE:—" *Thou shalt have no other gods before me.*"—Exodus 20:3

IX

THE BREAKWATER OF THE SOUL

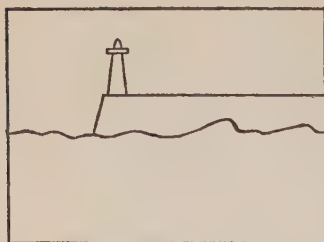


FIG. 1

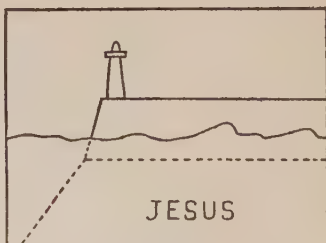


FIG. 2

ALONG some parts of the Atlantic coast we often have severe storms. The wind howls furiously and the waves lash themselves against the shore. These storms do much damage. They hit unprotected harbours, wreck ships and destroy everything along the coast that is within their reach. To protect the harbour, and to save their ships and other property from destruction men build large breakwaters at the mouth of the harbour. Let me draw a picture of a breakwater so that you may know what it is. (Draw as in Fig. 1.)

These breakwaters are built of stone and are made so high that when a storm suddenly comes

the mad waves dash against the breakwater in vain. This great wall shields a city against the dangers of the storm, for while the tempest is raging without all is snug and safe within the harbour. Waves strike with great force against the breakwater, but it stands firm and unshakable. This is because it is built upon a strong and deep foundation. (Draw foundation as in Fig. 2.)

Our souls are a good deal like cities on a stormy coast. Great storms assail them, and unless they are protected by a strong breakwater they will be ruined. The waves that beat against our souls are tremendous and powerful. There are the waves of GREED. What ugly and unfeeling waves they are! They wash away everything in their path. They do not stop to consider that they are hurting other people and making them unhappy. They dash heedlessly along leaving destruction in their wake. We need to safeguard our souls against such heartless waves. Then there are the waves of BAD TEMPER. How they lash the souls of boys and girls! How fiercely they strike! The soul that is without protection cannot long withstand these merciless waves. There are many others I might name, all of them cruel and powerful. The wise boy and the wise girl, like the wise men along the stormy coast will want to build a secure

breakwater to save their souls from destruction. But to do this they must build on a deep, un-failing foundation. That foundation is JESUS. (Print as in Fig. 2.) If they build their lives on Him they are sure, with the help of God, of erecting a breakwater that will hold back all the waves which seek to destroy, however fierce and cruel they may be. No other foundation will do. Jesus is the only one upon whom they can build with any sense of security. He will stand the test of time.

MEMORY VERSE:—“*For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.*”—I Cor. 3: 11.

X

CONFESSING CHRIST BEFORE MEN

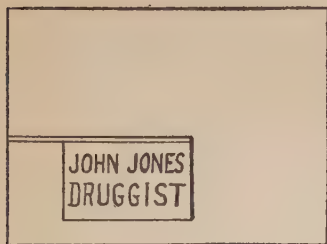


FIG. 1

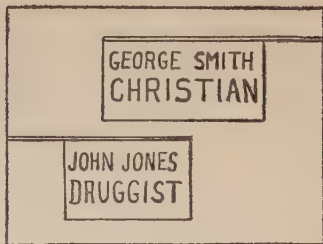


FIG. 2

WHENEVER I pass through the business section of any city I am always impressed by the fact that all the stores advertise their business. Some of them have their names printed in the window, others have signs above the door and a good many have something like this (begin to draw signboard as in Fig. 1) hanging out in front of the store.

You have seen such signs. Why do you suppose business men want to advertise? Why do you think they show their names and indicate the business they are engaged in in such large letters, so that people can see them for a good distance away? There can be but one reason and

that is, to attract people to do business with them. There is a man, for example, who is a druggist. He hangs out a large sign JOHN JONES—DRUGGIST (print as in Fig. 1), so that people will come to him when they need medicine. A man who is in business never hides his name nor fails to make known to the world the kind of business in which he is engaged. He knows that in order to be successful he must advertise and let the people know what he has and the things in which he deals.

We are Christians, and as Christians we are engaged in the noble business of spreading the Kingdom of God among men: if we would be successful in this great work we, too, must hang our signboards out (draw as in Fig. 2) so that people may know that we are followers of Christ and workers with Him. When Jesus said "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven" He meant that we should hang out our signboards to indicate to the world that we were following in His footsteps and working for the Kingdom of God. But sometimes I see young people who hesitate to acknowledge that they are followers of Christ. They blush at the very mention of His name. No one should be ashamed of Jesus. It should be our pride and boast that we know Him and

are co-workers with Him. Let us so live our lives that when people pass by us they shall see written on our signboard **GEORGE SMITH—CHRISTIAN** (print as in Fig. 2) and know that our business is to further the interest of the Kingdom of God.

MEMORY VERSE:—“*Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.*”—Matt. 10:32.

XI

OVERCOMING OBSTACLES BY FAITH

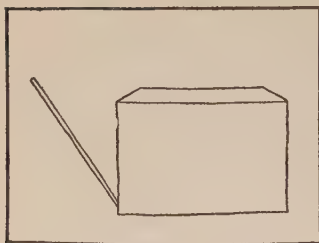


FIG. 1

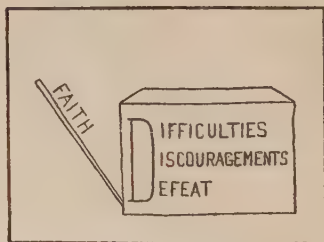


FIG. 2

NEAR where a new building was being put up, I once stopped to watch a man hard at work trying to move a large block of granite. This heavy stone had been left on the sidewalk and was obstructing the passageway. It looked something like this. (Draw stone as in Fig. 1.)

The man was doing his very best to move this heavy block. He pushed with both his hands but the stone did not move. He placed his shoulder against it and tried again, but it did not budge. It was too heavy, and all his strength was not sufficient to move it. From a tool-box near by the man took a long, slender, straight piece of iron—it is called a crowbar. He placed this

bar (draw crowbar as in Fig. 1) under the block of granite and using it as a lever, gave one push. The stone moved. By using the iron bar for a few minutes in this way he moved the heavy stone completely out of the way and soon had the sidewalk clear again.

As we travel through life how often we find in our pathway great stones that hinder our progress! There are many of them, but this morning we shall consider only a few.

Some of us find our way blocked by DIFFICULTIES. (Draw a large red D as shown in Fig. 2 and complete the word in white.) We meet this stone everywhere—in the schoolroom, in the home, in the office and even in the Church and Church school. We try to push it aside but it seems immovable. Then there is the stone of DISCOURAGEMENTS. (Print as in Fig. 2.) We make plans; something happens; we cannot carry them out, we lose courage and give up in despair. This is a heavy stone and the futures of many young people have been spoiled because they could not remove it. Another stone is the stone of DEFEAT. (Print as in Fig. 2.) Some people are so frightened at the size of it, they do not even touch it.

How many young people have pushed and strained and worked to move aside these obstacles, and have failed like the man who at-

tempted to move the granite block with his hands and shoulder. Like him, we cannot move these stones with our own strength. We must use a force more powerful than ourselves. We must also use a crowbar, the crowbar of FAITH. (Print as in Fig. 2.) Faith will remove them without difficulty and our path of life will be cleared for us to go forward.

NOTE:—At this point explain the meaning of faith. The writer in giving this lesson used the often-tried illustration of the coin. He held up his closed hand which contained a coin. He told the pupils that he had a coin in his hand and that he would give it to the first boy or girl who would come forward for it. As is usually the case, no one came forward, and he pointed out that it was because no one believed what he said. He closed by saying: “Faith is believing what another person tells you about something you have not seen. Faith is believing the promises of God as given to us in His Holy Word. He promises us that He will never forsake us.”

MEMORY VERSE:—“*If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.*”—Matt. 17:20.

XII

THE RULE OF LOVE

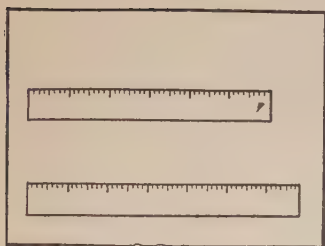


FIG. 1

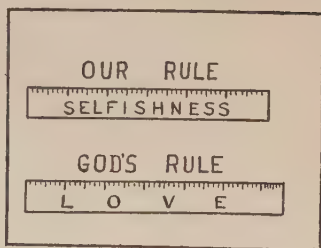


FIG. 2

CAN anyone tell me what work is done by that department of the city government called the Bureau of Weights and Measures? Yes, that department inspects the weights and measures of dealers to see whether they are true and honest. Sometimes, you know, an unscrupulous dealer will have a measure like this (draw as in Fig. 1) with only 35 inches to the yard. It looks all right, until you put it beside a standard measure (draw as in Fig. 1). See how it looks. The true, full-sized rule makes the first look quite small and mean, does it not? What do you think the first rule shows about the dishonest merchant who uses it? I think it shows his

SELFISHNESS (print as in Fig. 2). I do not have a very high opinion of such a merchant and neither do you, I know. I would not like to be anything like him, and neither would you, I am certain. And yet we are like the dishonest merchant, sometimes, because we use his little rule of selfishness. When we consider our own pleasure, and forget other people's needs and wishes (I'm afraid some of us do this quite often), which of these rules are we using? Yes, we make this undersized little rule OUR RULE (print as in Fig. 2) when we are selfish and when we use it we are cheating—cheating God—cheating other people—cheating ourselves. Here is a bigger, better rule, a standard rule, a rule that cheats nobody but gives full measure. Whoever uses this rule always shows his LOVE (print as in Fig. 2 and expand). It is God's rule (print as in Fig. 2) and we must use it instead of the old rule of selfishness. This rule has a name. Who knows what rule it is? Yes, it is the Golden Rule. Let us repeat it together.

MEMORY VERSE:—“*And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise.*”—Luke 6:31.

XIII

THE LESSON OF THE STRAWBERRY PLANT (A MISSIONARY TALK)

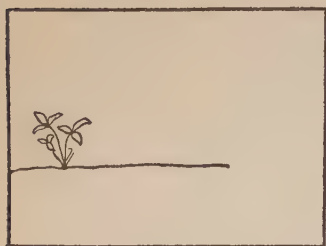


FIG. 1



FIG. 2

Not long ago I discovered a most curious thing, boys and girls. I saw a plant which stands still, and yet moves! It is not an unusual foreign plant, either, but one I found growing in my own garden. Probably you have often seen it. It is the strawberry plant. (Draw as in Fig. 1.)

I had always heard that strawberry plants spread very rapidly. If a man puts just one strawberry plant into his garden, by next spring he will find that he has a whole strawberry patch. The one plant just moves out and spreads until it has covered a large piece of

ground. I wanted so much to know how this was done that one day I went out and looked very carefully at a strawberry patch. This is what I found. The first little plant had sent out a long green runner (draw as in Fig. 1) which had reached over here and taken root, and so a second plant was started. (Draw as in Fig. 2.) This new plant in its turn sent out a runner (draw) and started another new plant (draw). Of course you know how quickly by such a method a whole patch could be covered. It all depends upon each plant sending out runners and starting other plants, which every good plant does.

We talk in our Church school work about the Kingdom of God, and how you and I and all followers of Jesus want to have it spread all over the world. We want it to go to all America, to India, to China and everywhere else, until the whole world shall know of it. It seems to me that this little strawberry plant might teach us how to make God's Kingdom spread. Our church is like the first plant, which sent out a runner and started another plant. If the Kingdom of God is to spread on earth, our church must send out and start other churches. The strawberry plant sends out a runner—what does our church send to India or China? Yes, it sends MONEY. (Print as in Fig. 2.) A church

that did not send money to the missionary churches would be like a strawberry plant that did not send out a runner. It is a fine thing for the boys and girls of our church to send money to help spread the Kingdom. There is something else, however, that a church is prouder to send than it is to send money, and that is MEN (print as in Fig. 2). Do you not think it would be wonderful if some young man or woman of this church should some day go out to the mission field to spread the glad tidings of the Kingdom to the people in far-off lands? Perhaps that young man or young woman may be you, grown up.

MEMORY VERSE:—“*Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.*”—Mark 16: 15.

XIV

TEMPERANCE TALK

D-R I-N-K	
DESTROYED	LIFE
R	
IMPAIRED	HEALTH
N	
K	

FIG. 1

D-R-I N-K	
DESTROYED	LIFE
RUINED	CHARACTER
IMPAIRED	HEALTH
NUMBED	CONSCIENCE
KILLED	AMBITIONS

FIG. 2

ALL who think that they are good spellers please raise hands. You all do. I am going to print five letters on the board and ask you to tell me what they spell (print as in Fig. 1). That is right; they spell D-R-I-N-K. I have been thinking about these letters for a long time. I found that D-R-I-N-K not only spells drink, but spells something more, and I am sure that before the lesson is over you will agree with me. Let us put these letters on the board in the same order in which we have them at the top of the board but in a vertical position (print as in Fig. 1).

Physicians who have spent a great deal of time studying about alcohol tell us that alcohol taken into the system in large quantities brings on disease and impairs the health. So that one of the first results of drink is **IMPAIRED HEALTH** (print as in Fig. 1).

Let me explain how this happens. In our blood we have millions upon millions of little cells. They are called white corpuscles. These corpuscles are the soldiers of the body and they are constantly on guard to destroy the enemies—disease germs—which we are always breathing in. When alcohol is taken into the body these soldiers are weakened, with the result that they are overpowered by the disease germs and we get consumption, pneumonia or other serious diseases. And of course the next step from these serious diseases is very, very often death. So that drink also means **DESTROYED LIFE** (print as in Fig. 1). Another serious result from drink is its effect on the conscience. It makes it a **NUMBED CONSCIENCE** (print as in Fig. 2 and expand). And other disastrous consequences from the use of alcohol are **KILLED AMBITIONS** (print and expand) and **RUINED CHARACTER** (print and expand). Drink is a terrible power and we may well shudder when we read what **D-R-I-N-K** spells. It spells (read from Fig. 2) a

DESTROYED LIFE
RUINED CHARACTER
IMPAIRED HEALTH
NUMBED CONSCIENCE
KILLED AMBITIONS

Many people are poor spellers—they do not see the menace in those five little letters D-R-I-N-K. Keep your eyes open, boys and girls. Promise yourselves now that you will always and everywhere and at all times keep away from drink and oppose it as the enemy of all boys and girls and men and women.

MEMORY VERSE:—

*“ Look not thou upon the wine when it is red,
When it sparkleth in the cup,
When it goeth down smoothly:
At the last it biteth like a serpent,
And stingeth like an adder.”*

—Proverbs 23: 31-32.

XV

GREATNESS THROUGH SERVICE

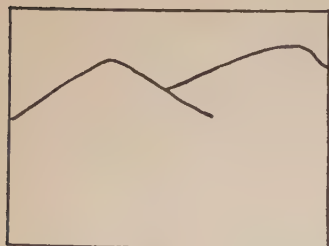


FIG. 1



FIG. 2

Boys and girls I am hoping that all of you will some day be great. Many people have a wrong idea of greatness. There is a story of a king who had such a wrong idea but later in life learned the true meaning of being great. (Tell story of King Robert of Sicily.)

In the end, King Robert became truly great. He did not have an easy time doing it. No one does. When he began, true greatness seemed a very far off, distant thing, like a high mountain peak, almost out of reach. (Draw as in Fig. 1.) He did not know how to get there, but when, as a clown, his heart grew humble, he found the beginning of the way. The road to GREATNESS

(print as in Fig. 2) is a hard one. It begins way down with HUMILITY (print as in Fig. 2) and is called the path of SERVICE (print as in Fig. 2). It is the only road and everyone who has been truly great has followed it.

Abraham Lincoln travelled that path. He had such humility in his heart and was so anxious to serve that he was not ashamed to get off his horse and help out a pig caught in mire, or pick up some baby birds that had fallen from their nest, even though his friends did laugh at him. Jesus Himself walked along this path of service, which starts with humility. He was so humble He washed His disciples' feet. (Expand.)

If you want to reach true greatness, you must start with humility and climb the path of service. Jesus once told His disciples how they could become great. He said: (Repeat memory verse).

MEMORY VERSE:—"Whosoever would become great among you shall be your minister; and whosoever would be first among you shall be your servant; even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many."—Matt. 20: 26-28.

XVI

BAD TEMPER



FIG. 1

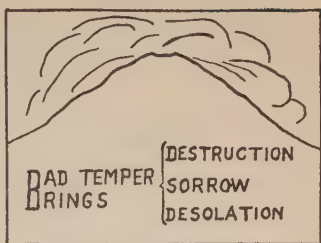


FIG. 2

A SHORT time ago the newspapers contained an account of a terrible disaster in Italy. They told of lives lost, homes destroyed, crops ruined and of much suffering and misery among the people. What caused all this loss and unhappiness? Yes, it was an eruption of the volcano Vesuvius.

A volcano, as you know, usually looks like any other mountain (draw as in Fig. 1). People plant their vineyards and build their homes on its sides. They may perhaps live contentedly there for many years. Then one day, volcanic forces which have been slumbering for a long time suddenly burst into violent eruption (draw as in

Fig. 2). Vast clouds of smoke and poisonous gases belch forth from the volcano's crater, huge rocks are thrown high into the air and come crashing to earth, and down the hillsides flow dreadful streams of white, hot lava. Everything in the path of this boiling lava is destroyed—people are buried or smothered, houses are burned, crops are ruined. Where there had been a prosperous hillside, are **DESTRUCTION** (print as in Fig. 2), **SORROW** (print as in Fig. 2) and **DESOLATION** (print as in Fig. 2).

I have never seen a volcanic eruption, but once I saw something that made me feel very much as though I had seen one. It was not a mountain, but a small boy. He looked like a very nice sort of boy, too, until suddenly something went wrong. Then he did not look like a nice little boy any longer. He began to hit out and break and bang things, angry words came in clouds from his mouth and his eyes flashed fire. Then I thought of the roaring, rumbling mountain that tossed tremendous rocks about, that poured out clouds of smoke and poisonous gases from its mouth, and belched forth fire and lava. **BAD TEMPER** (print as in Fig. 2) is like a volcano. In some ways it is worse, for a volcano erupts only at long intervals, but a bad temper flares up often, and the more often you let it the more it will. Like a volcano, too, it **BRINGS** (print as

in Fig. 2) destruction, sorrow and desolation. It leaves them not only for the boy or girl, but also for the folks about, like mothers, fathers and friends, who had nothing to do with it. Do you think that people who build their homes on the side of a volcano are foolish? They are not nearly so foolish as the boy or girl who has a bad temper, and does not try to control it. A wise man once said, and his words are found in the Bible (read memory verse).

MEMORY VERSE:—“ *He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.*”—Proverbs 16: 32.

XVII

THE POWER OF PRAYER

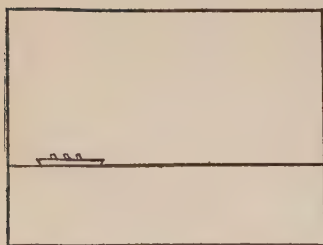


FIG. 1

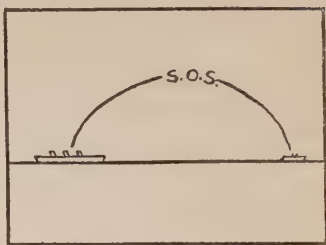


FIG. 2

THE time we live in is called "The Age of Inventions." Within the past fifty years men have made very many wonderful and interesting things. Who can tell me what some of them are? Yes, these are all modern inventions; you are very bright boys and girls to know so many of them. Perhaps the most interesting and at the same time most useful of all you have named is the wireless telegraph. What does it do? It sends messages for long distances through the air without wires. It can be used on both land and sea, but it is particularly useful at sea. Why? Because we can put up wires on land to send out communications, but we cannot have wires at

sea, and the wireless telegraph needs no wires. The wireless telegraph is very useful at sea. Suppose, for example, there is a ship, (draw ship as in Fig. 1) many miles away from land, travelling steadily onward, as she has travelled for perhaps three days, with nothing but sky and sea in sight. Suddenly something goes wrong. The ship strikes an iceberg, or perhaps takes fire. At any rate the people need help, and need it at once. They are alone on the great sea. The ship is sinking slowly. They can see nothing. They have seen nothing for three days but sea and sky. What do they do? They send out a wireless call for help—an S. O. S. (print as in Fig. 2). The wireless operator presses his key and perhaps it seems to the anxious people who watch him that nothing is happening. But noiselessly, invisibly, in ever-widening circles the message of distress goes speeding out across the boundless ocean. Far beyond their sight a ship (draw second ship as in Fig. 2) catches their call. It comes rushing to their rescue; the people are saved.

What a dreadful time that is, though, when the vessel is burning or sinking; there is nothing one can do and no help seems near! However, other people than those at sea sometimes get into difficulties quite as distressing and just as dangerous. Sometimes we are like the ship in dis-

tress (point to ship). We strike the icebergs of temptation; we burn with the fire of passion, and we begin to despair believing that we shall be lost. We long for help, but we see no means of getting it. When such a time comes, we, like the ship, can send out an S. O. S.—we can send a prayer to God. And though you cannot see Him; though He may seem very far away, call to Him for help. Sure and swift will come His answer. He is always willing to aid you; He only waits your call.

MEMORY VERSE:—“*And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.*”—Matt. 21:22.

XVIII

THE THREE R'S OF FORGIVENESS

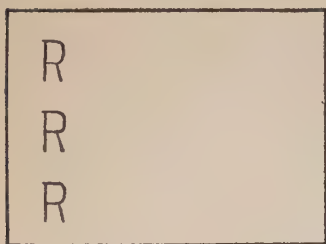


FIG. 1

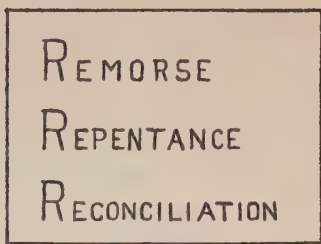


FIG. 2

SOMETIME ago a man whose heart was greatly troubled and whose face bore the evidence of worry and anxiety called on one of our great preachers and said to him, "I would give everything I have if I could be sure that the terrible sins I have committed could be forgiven." There are many people, like this man, whose minds are perplexed and whose lives are miserable because they do not know the wonderful truth that God can and does forgive sins. For your own sake and that you may be able to aid others who find themselves in this same difficulty I want to help you understand this glorious fact about God's

forgiveness. I shall try to explain it in the simplest way I know how.

God's plan of forgiveness reminds me of the three R's. (Print in red as in Fig. 1.) Of course you are familiar with them. As you know, they stand for reading, 'riting and 'rithmetic—the three essentials of education. In God's plan there are also three essential R's. The first of these is REMORSE. (Print as in Fig. 2 and expand.) He who would have his sin forgiven must be sorry for the wrong he did. You remember the story of the prodigal boy! So long as he remained in the far country and did not feel any remorse for the evil he had done he would always carry on his heart the stains of his sin. But when he came to himself and felt sincere regret for his wicked deeds he was started on the road to forgiveness. Most people easily fulfil this condition of remorse. The next step is more difficult. Sorrow for the sin committed must be accompanied by REPENTANCE, (print as in Fig. 2 and expand) the second of the three R's. Repentance is the determination not to repeat the wrong for which we were sorry; it is turning right-about-face and walking from the evil road toward righteousness.

When the prodigal boy made up his mind to return to his father it indicated his repentance—he had decided to walk away from his sinful prac-

tices and to live a clean life. This brings us to the third essential R—RECONCILIATION. (Print as in Fig. 2 and expand.) It is a long word but its meaning is easy to grasp. Reconciliation simply means being again on friendly terms with God as the prodigal son was with his father after coming home. The father had never ceased to love the boy all the while he was away. He waited daily with open arms to receive his son who through his folly had broken the friendship between them. When the boy returned the father threw his arms around him, kissed him and rejoiced, for his son who had left him had come back again. The fellowship between the father and son had been restored—there was a reconciliation between them. Like the father in the parable of the prodigal son, God, our Heavenly Father, always loves us even though we by our sin wilfully break our fellowship with Him. He is ready to receive us and only waits for us to return to him. But we can hardly do this in our own power. We must look to Jesus to help us. He came for this purpose—to show men the way back to God. He is the Way.

MEMORY VERSE:—“*I will arise and go to my father.*”—Luke 15: 18.

XIX

THE SAVING POWER OF FAITH

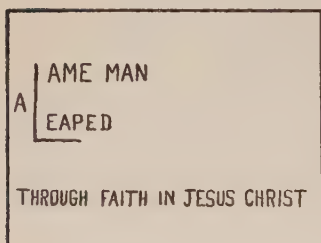


FIG. 1

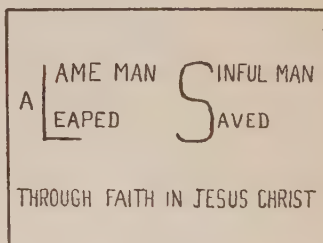


FIG. 2

RECENTLY there came to America a great surgeon. His name is Dr. Lorenz, he is noted for his successful treatment of crippled children. His purpose in coming was not to make money; he came to show the friendship of his people, the Austrians, for the United States. Dr. Lorenz did this by offering to heal poor children free of charge. As soon as his clinics were opened he was immediately besieged by multitudes of people. Hundreds of deformed little ones were brought to him to be cured by his skillful hands.

In his lifetime Dr. Lorenz has made many

cures but none was as wonderful as that which took place one day long ago at the Temple of Jerusalem. That afternoon two men were on their way to the Temple to worship God. When they reached the gate of the Temple, which is called Beautiful, they saw a certain LAME MAN. (Print as in Fig. 1.) This man had been born a helpless cripple and was carried to the gate every day by his friends that he might ask alms of worshippers as they entered the House of God. The two men, who were Peter and John, were touched by the man's misery, and they wanted very much to help him. But they did not have any money to give to the man. They had something for him which was of more worth than all the money in the world. So when the crippled man asked for alms Peter said, "I have neither silver nor gold, but I will give you another sort of gift. In the name of Jesus of Nazareth, rise up and walk!" He took the man by his right hand and lifted him up; immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. The lame man LEAPED (print as in Fig. 1) up and walked and entered into the Temple with Peter and John, leaping and praising God. All the people saw him walking and praising God, and they knew that he was the man who had begged for alms at the Beautiful Gate. They were filled

with amazement at what had happened. Very soon an enormous crowd gathered around the healed man and his benefactors. Everyone was anxious to see the men who could heal in this marvelous way, and they pressed forward from all sides. As Peter looked into the faces of the people he could see the wonder in their eyes and he knew that they were asking one another, "How did these men work this wonderful cure?" Then Peter called for their attention and explained to them how the lame man was made to walk. He said, "God has glorified His Son, whom you crucified. This man has been healed through his faith in Jesus Christ." A (print as in Fig. 1) lame man leaped THROUGH FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST. (Print as in Fig. 1.)

Before his cure the lame man was in a pitiable condition. But I can think of cases sadder than his. More desperate than the plight of the lame man is that of the SINFUL MAN. (Print as in Fig. 2.) The lame man had a deformed body; the sinful man has a diseased soul. The lame man was helpless under the weight of his affliction; the sinful man is powerless in the dreadful grip of evil (expand). How much more hopeless is the life of the sinful man than that of the most unfortunate cripple one can imagine! Yet even for the sinful man there is hope. The sinful man may be SAVED (print as in Fig. 2 and expand)

even as the lame man was healed, and by the same means **THROUGH FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST.** (Point to words on board.) Every day this wonderful miracle is being wrought in the lives of sinful people. Our Rescue Mission Halls and the Salvation Army have long records of men and women, who once lost in the wilderness of sin were found and saved through their faith in Jesus Christ. Jesus came to seek and to save that which was lost.

MEMORY VERSE:—" *For by grace are ye saved through faith.*"—Ephesians 2:8.

XX HUMILITY



FIG. 1

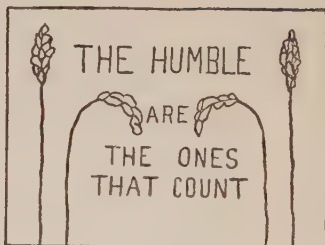


FIG. 2

LET us imagine for a little while that we are walking through the fields of far-off Japan. On either side of us we see plants growing that look like this. (Draw as in Fig. 1.) These bear grain of which both the Chinese and Japanese are very fond. Perhaps that will help you to guess their name. Yes, these are rice stalks.

As we pass through the fields we are filled with delight at the sight of these tall, yellow heads dancing in the sunlight. However, if we knew more about rice plants we would have a different feeling. These stalks which pleased us so much are a disappointment to the farmer. He likes to see plants which probably would escape our

notice unless our attention were called to them—those, which instead of standing erect, droop their heads down. (Draw as in Fig. 2.) If we look closely we may find them everywhere among the others, with their heads so bent over that I should like to contrast them with these tall, proud stalks and name them **THE HUMBLE** (print as in Fig. 2) rice plants. Why do you suppose the farmer prefers these bent plants to the erect ones? It is because the humble heads contain big kernels of grain inside of them which have great food value, whereas the straight ones are empty and of no use whatsoever. These high and haughty looking fellows which first caught your eye and mine are valueless, you see, while the lowly neighbors which we almost overlooked are actually **THE ONES THAT COUNT**. (Print as in Fig. 2.)

Empty rice plants hold themselves erect and attract a good deal of attention. Those laden with fruit bend low and may easily remain unseen. So in life we discover that those who are rendering true service for God are not the boys and girls or the men and women who hold themselves up proudly to be observed of all people. (Mention Pharisees as an illustration.) We find that they who are truly working for God and His Kingdom are so full of the blessing they have to give that they never think of themselves, but do their task quietly and humbly. Often they

are not noticed by the people of the world, but their Master sees and rejoices. What is true of rice plants is also true of people. The humble rice stalks are the ones that count for the farmer. The humble people ARE (print as in Fig. 2) the ones that count in the life of this world and in the Kingdom of God.

MEMORY VERSE:—" *Blessed are the meek; for they shall inherit the earth.*"—Matt. 5: 5.

XXI

CHRIST CRUCIFIED (PALM SUNDAY TALK)

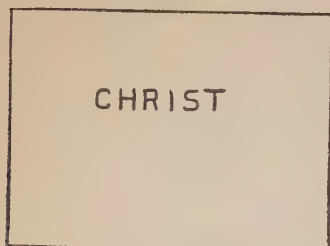


FIG. 1

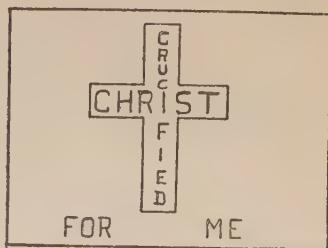


FIG. 2

LONG ago there was in a distant country a pleasant little village set among rolling hills. In it were gardens and olive trees; it was usually a charming, quiet spot, although it was near a great city. Once a year, however, at a certain time, it was the custom for crowds of pilgrims to pass through the village on their way to worship at the Temple in the city. That was a time of great excitement for the village children!

Our story begins at the season when the pilgrims came. Everyone in the village was on the watch to see them passing through. Late in the afternoon there came up the road the far-off

sound of many people moving. It grew louder and louder until at last there came into view a crowd of pilgrims greater than any the villagers had ever seen before. The multitude poured through the village streets looking for places to spend the night. Many people had to camp out under the olive trees; probably the little boys who were along liked that very well. The leader of the pilgrims stayed that night at the home of Simon, a man of the village who was his friend.

Early in the morning the people began to stir. Every pilgrim took out from the baggage he carried his finest, brightest robe and put it on. Everyone was smiling, happy, excited. Presently from Simon's house came the leader of the pilgrims, with a few of His friends. He was not dressed in a bright garment, but wore the same travel-stained robe He had had on the day before; He did not own another. One of His friends led up to Him a meek little donkey. He mounted and rode off toward the city. A loud shout went up from the people; they surged after their quiet leader, calling His name and singing together. As they approached the city another throng came out to meet them. This crowd was also singing and shouting. They tore down branches from trees and waved them in greeting to the leader of the pilgrims. At this the enthusiasm reached a higher pitch—branches and flowers were placed

in the road that the quiet man might ride over them; people threw down their bright new robes for a carpet for him, while from every throat came shouts of praise and blessing. "Hosanna in the highest," they cried, "Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord."

The leader moved forward through the crowd to the city gates, where He dismounted and went in. The pilgrims followed. All the people of the city were astonished at the tumult and asked, "Who is this?" Who was it? Have you guessed from my story? The quiet leader to whom the people showed so much honour was CHRIST. (Print as in Fig. 1.)

Less than a week afterward there was another striking scene outside this same city. (Describe the crucifixion in contrast to the scene above.) Again we see Christ; not Christ acclaimed by the people, but CHRIST CRUCIFIED. (Print as in Fig. 2 and draw the cross.) Jesus was the Son of God. He had all honour, power, glory and might, yet He chose to give all these up for our sakes. He was offered earthly power; the people begged Him to become king of the Jews, yet He refused, and chose rather to die the painful death on the cross. He would not save Himself. Why did Jesus choose the hard way? Why did He suffer on the cross? He did it for us, that we might be saved from our sins, and be helped

to live better lives. Each of you, when you look upon that Cross, may say to yourself, "This was for me. Christ was crucified FOR ME." (Print.) Do not be like the people of the crowd, who one day were for Jesus, and the next day were against Him. Decide that today, and every day, you will live for Christ, who was crucified for you.

MEMORY VERSE:—"While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."—Romans 5:8.

XXII

BRIDGING THE GULF OF SIN



FIG. 1

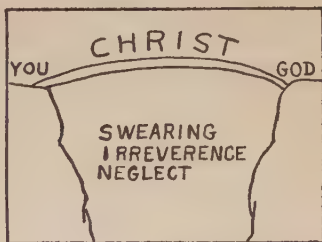


FIG. 2

THE Grand Canyon of Colorado is the most remarkable river valley in the world. It is an enormous chasm cut into the rock by the Colorado River. (Draw as in Fig. 1.) It is a mile deep, and in some places as much as thirteen miles wide. Of course the great canyon is a most marvellous sight, and many people go every year to visit it. It is, however, a great impediment to travel and commerce, since it is too wide to permit a bridge to be built across it. The Grand Canyon is one of the world's wonders, and it seems strange to think that it has actually been made by little drops of water; but it is true. The drops of

water joined together made the Colorado River, and the Colorado River cut the chasm.

Those little drops of water seemed to produce a large result when they cut out the great Canyon, did they not? Yet I know of a deeper and wider chasm which is being dug every day within your sight and hearing; perhaps even (though I hope not) by yourself. This darker and more dreadful gulf is being dug by little things, too, by little careless words and little unthinking deeds. Such small, and, as you may think, unimportant things can quickly and quietly dig a fearful gulf between You (print as in Fig. 2) and God. (Print.)

Now and again as I pass through the streets I hear boys, and sometimes even girls, swearing, using foul language, and filthy expressions. This is a sin that will very soon separate one from God. He wants us to have clean lips, and has commanded us not to take His name in vain. This sin begins as a careless habit; we use expressions at first that are not really wrong, but, like the river, the habit grows, and we find that we are giving way to the sin of SWEARING. (Print as in Fig. 2.)

There is another sin that sometimes separates boys and girls from God—the sin of IRREVERENCE. (Print as in Fig. 2.) We should show reverence for God, for His house, the church, and

for His Word. It is sinful to be noisy in Church-school; to jump around, to argue or misbehave oneself there. It is irreverent to show a lack of respect in church, to giggle or talk during prayer or Bible reading. You are irreverent if you disobey your parents or disobey God. Irreverence helps to put a gulf between you and God.

The third sin I wish to mention is NEGLECT. (Print as in Fig. 2.) This does not mean doing anything wrong; it means forgetting to do things that are good. Forgetting to come to Church-school is neglect; forgetting to pray every day is neglect; forgetting to try to be kind and helpful at home is neglect.

All these things, when you first begin them, seem little—one bad word, or one funny word at the wrong time, or forgetting just once. But these small things are like the little drops of water that made the Grand Canyon. They will cut between you and God the deep and dreadful gulf of SIN. (Colour initial letter of SWEARING, IRREVERENCE and NEGLECT red, thus spelling SIN.) I hope that you will never let sin separate you from God as so many people have done. They are missing the real joys of life because they are far away from Him. (Expand.)

There is no bridge across the Colorado Canyon. How hopeless life would be for all of us

if there could be no way of crossing the gulf of sin, no means of ever getting back to God! But in His mercy, God has given us one bridge across the chasm. That bridge is CHRIST. (Draw and letter as in Fig. 2.) He came into the world to save us from sin. He came that we might know God, and be brought closer to Him. Christ covers the gap between you and God. With His help you can cross over any sin, whether it is great or small, and come to the Father who is waiting to receive you and forgive you.

MEMORY VERSE:—" *I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*"—John 14: 6.

XXIII

THE BIBLE

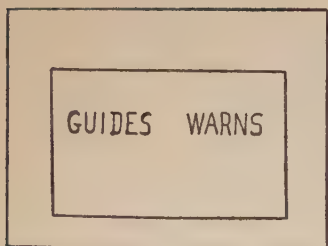


FIG. 1

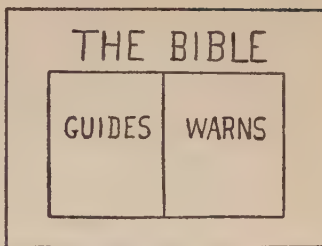


FIG. 2

IF you were the captain of a great vessel, a wonderful ocean liner, what things do you think you would consider most important on your ship?

All the things you have named are very important; no ship could get along without them. There is, however, one essential thing which you have not named. It does not look very impressive, but no captain would ever think of setting out without one, because the safety of the ship and all on board depends upon it. This important thing is called a mariner's chart. (Draw as in Fig. 1.)

A mariner's chart is like a map, and in it the captain finds all sorts of very useful informa-

tion. It shows him the routes to take in order to reach his destination. The whole of his course is laid out for him there; the chart GUIDES (print as in Fig. 1 and expand) him all through the voyage. Then, too, the chart has mapped upon it the dangers along the way. It WARNS (print as in Fig. 1) the captain, telling him of dangerous rocks and of those deceptive waters which look safe, but really hide shoals and shallows perilous to the ship. The security of the whole vessel and her cargo depends upon that little chart. The wise captain studies it every day, to see how far he has sailed and what dangers are near. He could not possibly make a safe voyage without it.

Do you know that every boy and girl is likewise captain of a great ship? The ship is your life. It is entrusted to your care, you are in charge of it, and you are responsible for guiding it safely through all the world's dangers and difficulties. You, too, are given a wonderful chart to use on your journey. It is THE BIBLE (print and complete as in Fig. 2). No responsible captain ever thinks of setting sail without his chart. If he did, he might have fair sailing for awhile, but sooner or later he would find himself in unknown seas and would meet with disaster or shipwreck. No sensible boy would undertake life's journey without the guidance of his Bible. Like the

mariner's chart, the Bible warns you of danger. It tells you how to avoid the shoals of discouragement and the rocks of temptation. Better still, it will guide you safely toward your haven. Be a wise captain; use your chart, consult it every day.

MEMORY VERSE:—“ *This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate thereon day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein; for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.*”—Joshua 1: 8.

XXIV

INFLUENCE

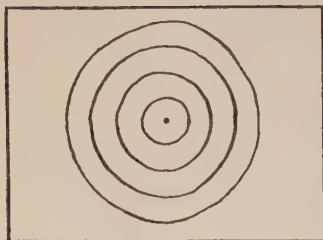


FIG. 1

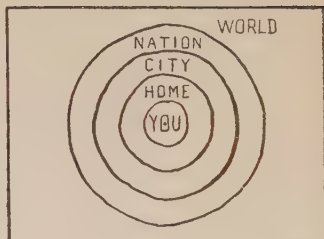


FIG. 2

DID any of you ever throw a stone into a pool of water? What happened? Yes, it made circles in the water, circles (draw circles as in Fig. 1 while speaking) that grew larger and larger, moving out from the spot where the stone fell. The circles made by a tiny pebble will travel to the edge of a large pool.

One never would think that such a very small stone could affect such a big stretch of water. We often think too little of small things, but though we cannot see it, and very often forget it, it is nevertheless true that the influence of even small things is very far-reaching. Every one of you here for instance, however young or

small, has a wide-reaching influence, an influence that spreads out from you as the waves spread out from the stone thrown into the water, and which you can no more prevent than the stone can prevent the waves. This picture of the stone and the rings it is making is a picture of you. (Print You as in Fig. 2.) The first circle, the circle closest to you and perhaps the only one you think of as being influenced by you, is your HOME. (Print as in Fig. 2.) That really is where you count most. How many homes are made happy by some pleasant, helpful child! How many homes are made wretched by just one bad-tempered boy or selfish girl. The kind of home yours is, and you help make what it is, affects the CITY (print) in which you live. The city affects the NATION (print and expand) and the nation, the WORLD. (Print and expand.)

Every wrong thing you do not only hurts your life but works harm to your own home, your city, your country and the world. Every good thing you do will ennoble your life and bless your home, your city, your country and the world.

I wonder what sort of circles you sent out yesterday? What kind are you going to send out today?

XXV

CONCENTRATION OR SINGLENESS OF PURPOSE

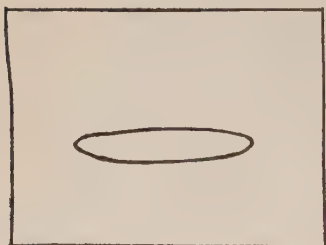


FIG. 1

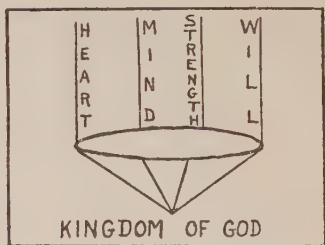


FIG. 2

ONCE I saw a boy do a very interesting thing; it isn't really a new thing—perhaps some of you have done it yourselves. He had a magnifying glass. (Draw as in Fig. 1.) It was very small, and he held it in the sunlight over a piece of paper. I see some of you know what happened after a while. What was it? Yes, the paper grew very warm and presently it began to burn. If you try, you can get enough heat in this way to light a candle. Who can tell me why? Some of you have it. Before the rays strike the glass they are parallel to each other. (Draw as in Fig. 2.) The glass concentrates the rays of the sun; that

is, brings them all together at one point (Draw as in Fig. 2.) Just one ray at a time could never do anything. It is all the rays concentrated on one particular object that do the work.

I think the magnifying glass has a lesson to teach us about doing work—work for Jesus or any other kind of work. The lesson of the magnifying glass is to concentrate. If you decide to do anything, the way to get it done is to put your whole self into it, not just a part of you.

To put your whole self into your work means to put your HEART (print as in Fig. 2 and expand) into it. Beside having your heart in it, you must have your MIND (print and expand) on it. Then it is necessary to give all your STRENGTH (print and expand) to your task. Last, and perhaps most important of all, is the use of your WILL (print and expand). If you put these four powers, your HEART, your MIND, your STRENGTH and your WILL, all together on one particular object—your work for Jesus and the KINGDOM OF GOD (print)—your life will have much power, and you will accomplish great things for the Master. That is what Paul did, and you know what wonderful results he achieved. The secret of the success of all great men has been their power of concentration, their singleness of purpose. Having settled on the thing that they wanted to do they put their whole being

into it—their heart, mind, strength and will. There is no greater work than the work our Master came to do—that of spreading the Kingdom of God. I wonder how many love His work dearly enough to be willing to concentrate on it, to bring all their powers to the task of doing His will, as the magnifying glass concentrates the rays of the sun. How many will try? For your memory verse I would like you to learn those great words of St. Paul found in Phil. 3:13 and 14.

MEMORY VERSE:—“*One thing I do . . . I press on toward the goal unto the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.*”—Phil. 3:13-14.

XXVI

TRUE WORSHIP

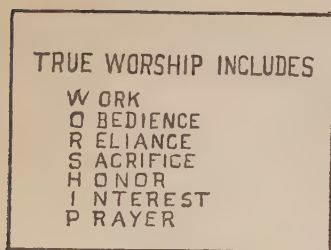


FIG. 1

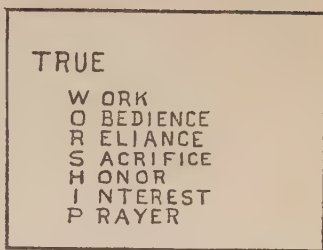


FIG. 2

NOTE:—Sing, “O Worship the King.”

THE song we have just sung tells us to worship God our King. I wonder what that word WORSHIP (print as in Fig. 1) means? We hear it quite often and probably most of us think of it in connection with morning worship—the morning service at church. If you were to answer my question about the meaning of worship I have no doubt that a large number of you would refer to the singing of hymns, joining in prayers, listening to sermons and doing the other things which are a part of the Sunday service. All these do enter into worship, but TRUE (print as in

Fig. 1) worship is a much larger matter than the mere observance of the forms we go through on Sunday morning. True worship is not limited to Sunday or church-going; it extends through every day in the week and consists in doing many things we do not ordinarily bear in mind when we think of worshipping God. What then does true worship include? TRUE WORSHIP INCLUDES (print as in Fig. 1) WORK (print as in Fig. 1). We do not truly praise and honour God if we do not work for Him and for His kingdom. (Expand.) The true worship of God also calls for our OBEDIENCE. (Print as in Fig. 1.) It is essential for us to learn God's will and then, like Jesus, obey at any cost. (Expand.) We truly worship God when we place RELIANCE (print as in Fig. 1) on Him and trust His goodness and love. (Expand.) Another important element in the true worship of God is SACRIFICE. (Print as in Fig. 1.) Sacrifice means giving up something that we like. Our worship will be incomplete unless we make some kind of sacrifice for God. (Expand.) True worship also includes HONOUR. (Print as in Fig. 1.) We honour God by living clean and pure lives. (Expand.) Of course, there can be no true worship without INTEREST (print as in Fig. 1) in all the things pertaining to God. (Expand.)

And last, true worship includes PRAYER (print as in Fig. 1 and expand).

We worship God, then, by our work, and obedience, by our reliance on Him and our sacrifice for Him and through our honour, our interest and our prayer. When we remember and serve God in these ways all through the week we are worshipping Him in a manner which finds favour in His sight. Such worship (erase WORSHIP INCLUDES and colour TRUE and initial letters in red so that completed talk will be as in Fig. 2) is true worship.

MEMORY VERSE:—"God is a Spirit; and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."—John 4: 24.

XXVII

THE CHURCH FLAG

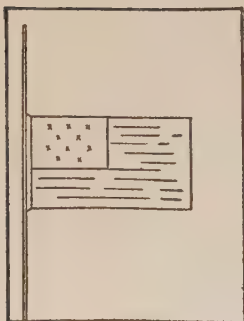


FIG. 1

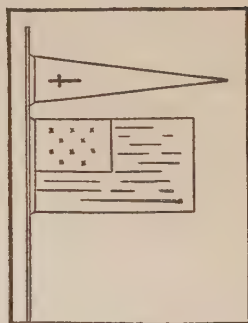


FIG. 2

WHAT day do we celebrate on June 14th? Yes, Flag Day. This is a sacred day for us. It awakens thoughts of days gone by with struggles for the life and preservation of the nation. It should stir within us hopes and aspirations for the days that are to come. It is well that a day has been set apart to commemorate the birth of our flag (draw as in Fig. 1). To us the flag means our country, the security of our homes, the safety of our loved ones. To many people across the seas it has meant deliverance from oppression and salvation from death. To all, our

glorious flag has come to symbolize freedom, equality and justice. We should always honour our flag; we should honour it by the lives we live.

I want to tell you something that you perhaps do not know and that may surprise you. Several years ago I spent about a month aboard an American man-of-war. I had always thought as probably you do now, that no other flag should ever fly above the Stars and Stripes. To my great amazement the first Sunday morning I saw the American flag lifted up to the mast of the vessel with another flag above it. Another flag hoisted over the American banner on an United States ship! Do you know which flag it was? It was the Church flag (draw as in Fig. 2 and describe). It is a regulation of the United States Navy that when religious services are held aboard ship the Church flag should be raised above the American flag. This is the only flag that comes before our national emblem. This is as it should be. I wish that all the nations would have the Church ensign floating above their national standards. I am happy that I live in a land where the Church flag flies above the flag of our country. I rejoice that our country, by putting the banner of the Church first, acknowledges the supremacy of God and recognizes the high importance of spiritual things. No nation can long endure that is

not built upon a spiritual foundation. The strong Roman Empire and the other leading civilizations of the past lost their power and were destroyed because they either ignored or forgot God. Our nation was founded by men and women who loved God. (Expand.) May we always as a nation be a God-loving people.

MEMORY VERSE:—" *Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.*"—Psa. 33: 12.

XXVIII

THE FLY AND THE SPIDER'S WEB

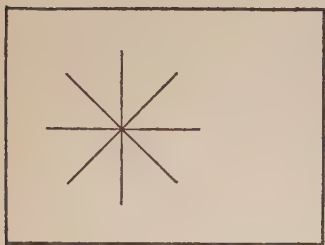


FIG. 1

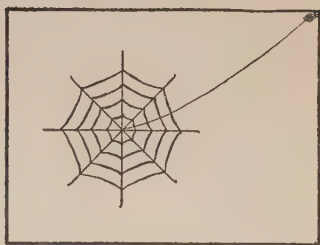


FIG. 2

WATCH me carefully as I draw (draw as in Fig. 1) some lines on the blackboard, for I shall ask you to tell me what you think they represent. What do you suppose I have tried to picture? (Get answers from pupils.) A star! No. Starfish! No. No one seems to know. These lines represent the foundation or radiating lines of a spider's web. Did you ever see a spider spin a web? It is very interesting. I watched one in a barn one summer and this is what it did. First it set the radiating lines. (Point to diagram.) Then from a point near the center (begin to draw web as in Fig. 2) on one of the radiating lines it began with great care to spin its web.

When the spider finished the first set of lines, it began the second; when the second was finished, it began the third, then the fourth, until presently the whole web was spun. When it had finished the web, it returned to the centre and from there stretched a long line to the corner of the barn where it could not be seen (draw line as in Fig. 2). I examined the web and I was surprised to find how accurately and carefully the work had been done.

The spider does not spin a web just for fun. It has a purpose in spending so much time and care in doing that work. What is its purpose? (Get answers from children.) Yes, it uses this web as a trap to catch flies. A fly unsuspectingly alights on one of the silk threads of the web and becomes entangled and cannot escape. Struggling to set itself free, the fly causes the web to vibrate and this is a signal to the spider who is in hiding. As soon as the spider receives the signal it rushes down the trap line and pounces on its prey. (Trace movement of spider on blackboard.) When it has satisfied its appetite and sucked the life out of the fly, it drops the fly to the floor below and returns to its hiding place to await its next victim.

As I looked at the web, I was reminded of a large class of men, who, like the spider, make traps. The spider makes traps to entangle flies

so that it may have something to eat. These men, that they may make money and live in comfort and ease, make traps to ruin our young boys and girls. I was reminded especially of the dance-hall proprietor, who, like the spider, lays his traps with a great deal of pains. He makes his place attractive and inviting, and every year, a large number of our good young people innocently enter this trap, only looking for fun and not suspecting any harm. Before they realize what is happening to them they are entangled in unforeseen perils, and become the prey of evils of whose very existence they had heretofore been unaware. Keep out of the dance-hall. Do you think that there is something fascinating about it? You would like to see what it is like inside just once? That is exactly what the fly thought and you know what happened to it. Avoid the dance-hall for it is an alluring and deceptive trap. (Local places of evil such as pool rooms or gambling dens, should be substituted for the dance-hall, where necessary, to meet the special need of the group addressed.)

MEMORY VERSE:—" *My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not.*"—Proverbs 1:10.

XXIX

THE GUIDE-POST TO SALVATION



FIG. 1



FIG. 2

It is great fun to get up early in the morning and start for a long walk down a lovely country road. The dew is still shining on the grass, and the sun is hardly up, and everything seems hushed and still and sweet smelling. Something new and wonderful lies just around every turn in the path, and you wander on and on, forgetting everything but the beauty of the morning. (Draw country road as in Fig. 1.)

But sometimes boys and girls lose their way in the country, especially if they stray off the path after flowers and butterflies. Then, I must tell you, things seem very different. The sun comes up, and you begin to feel very hot and

thirsty and tired, and you try to find some place to get a drink, and can't. Then you try to find the road, and the only one you see looks altogether new, and you are sure it is not the right one. Then suddenly you know that you are lost, and a dreadful desolate feeling comes over you. You are alone, and you don't know how to find your way back to the house where your father and mother are, and everything is as miserable as it can be. But if you are just able to spy this (draw guide-post and print as in Fig. 1) pointing the way home you are happy and safe again.

How happy that guide-post has made you, and what a useful, helpful thing a guide-post is! A guide-post is placed to show lost people the right way.

There is a beautiful story in the Bible (Acts 8:26-40) of a man who acted as a guide-post. (Tell story of Philip and the Ethiopian.) Philip was like a guide-post to the Ethiopian. He showed him the way to SALVATION. (Print as in Fig. 2.) Wouldn't you like to be a guide-post, too? There are many people in this world who have wandered away from their heavenly Father's house, down the tempting path of sin. Many of them are tired and unhappy, and long to find the road to peace and contentment but do not know the way. You know the way; it is so simple that even the smallest child can say it and

remember it. BELIEVE IN CHRIST. (Print as in Fig. 2 and expand.) BE BAPTIZED. (Print and expand) It is the same road that Philip showed the Ethiopian. How glad the weary lost ones would be to know that road! You must be the friendly guide-post to point it out to them. This is your great privilege as a follower of Jesus Christ. It will also be your deep and abiding joy. May you help many to find their way.

MEMORY VERSE:—“*Believe on the Lord Jesus, and thou shalt be saved.*”—Acts 16: 31.

XXX

TWO WAYS OF LIVING

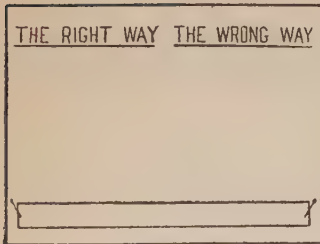


FIG. 1

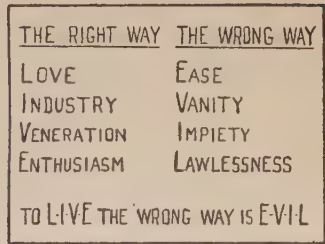


FIG. 2

IN order to show the proper way to use its product, a certain firm publishes an advertisement consisting of two pictures. One picture is labeled “The Right Way” (print as in Fig. 1) and the other is labeled “The Wrong Way” (print as in Fig. 1). As I looked at the advertisement it occurred to me that there is a right way and a wrong way of doing almost everything. There is a right way and a wrong way to live, for instance.

A life which is lived the right way has in it a place for LOVE. (Print as in Fig. 2.) The great joy of such a life is to do good to others. It gives its money, its time, its talents and itself to make

the world a better place to live in. The life lived the right way has also a place for INDUSTRY. (Print and expand.) It also includes VENERATION (print and expand) for parents and for God. Finally, such a life is full of ENTHUSIASM (print and expand) for righteous living and the things pertaining to God.

Now let us see what is in a life lived the wrong way. In a life lived the wrong way we find a desire for EASE (print as in Fig. 2 and expand). This life puts comfort and personal happiness first. It is not concerned with the loneliness and joylessness of other lives. Then, too, in a life lived the wrong way there is VANITY (print and expand). Vanity spoils people and makes them selfish. It gives them an exaggerated opinion of themselves and their importance. Where there is ease and vanity we discover that IMPIETY (print and expand) soon springs up. Ease and vanity are the marks of a self-centered life and such a life has no room for God. An impious person easily takes to LAWLESSNESS, (print and expand) disregarding the laws of God and man and bringing unhappiness to himself and to others.

If your life is full of LOVE, INDUSTRY, VENERATION and ENTHUSIASM, then you live, (print in red the first letters of each word under THE RIGHT WAY. These letters spell L-I-V-E)—you

live **THE RIGHT WAY**. If your life becomes one of **EASE**, **VANITY**, **IMPIETY** and **LAWLESSNESS**, then you live **THE WRONG WAY**, you live a life of **EVIL**, (print in red the first letters of each word under **THE WRONG WAY**, showing that they spell **E-v-I-L**, which is **LIVE** printed backwards).

To **L-I-V-E** the wrong way is **E-v-I-L**.

(The line above should be printed on the board before the beginning of the talk and covered with a strip of paper to be removed at this point in the talk. The lesson will be missed if the pupils fail to see that **LIVE** the wrong way, or spelled backward, is **EVIL**.)

XXXI

THE DECEITFULNESS OF SIN

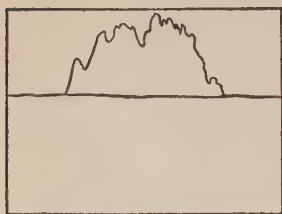


Fig. 1

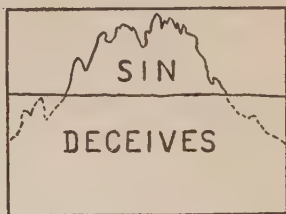


Fig. 2

YEARS ago an ocean voyage was a very serious and dangerous undertaking. Today a trip across the Atlantic is in many ways less dangerous than a trip across a busy street. The inventive genius of modern scientists has gradually reduced the risks, until now there are practically none.

There is one peril to the mariner, however, which no scientist has as yet been successful in overcoming—the peril of icebergs. (Draw as in Fig. 1.) In the spring these mountains of ice come floating into the ships' paths from the north. An iceberg is always surrounded by a dense, cold fog. When a ship enters such a fog, it is time for exercising extreme care. Unless

the ship is guided very cautiously and skillfully out of this heavy fog disaster threatens her. The captain stations lookouts to peer through the dark haze ahead. They are to watch for the iceberg, which has the appearance of a great block of greenish ice rising from the water. The lookouts' task is not easy, for the fog is deceptive, so they strain their eyes, trying to pierce the gloom. They know that it is not alone the up-standing ice which threatens their safety. If it were only that the ship might be guided around it. But the part of an iceberg which is visible above the water is a mere fraction of the whole. The real danger lies in the submerged part, (draw as in Fig. 2) which is much larger than the part above. The larger portion often lies just below the surface of the waves where it cannot be seen and is a menace to an unwary vessel. Ships are more often wrecked by the deceiving hidden ice than by the ice which is above the water. Icebergs are doubly dangerous because, by the confusing fog which surrounds it and by its treacherous, hidden perils the iceberg DECEIVES (print as in Fig. 2) the mariner. It is not surprising therefore that ships go hundreds of miles out of their way to avoid icebergs.

It seems to me that sin is something like an iceberg. Sin usually has a deceiving fog around it, a fog of phrases like these: "Everybody does

it," " Just doing it once won't matter," " Nobody will ever know the difference." When you hear these things think of the fog around the iceberg. To the mariner the fog is a danger signal; words like these are a danger signal to the good girl or boy. Remember, too, that the worst of sin is not what you see of it, though that is bad enough. Where sin is there are hidden perils which threaten those who venture near, perils you can never see until it is too late. An iceberg deceives, but just as truly and much more frequently SIN (print as in Fig. 2 and expand) deceives. I am not afraid that any of you may find an iceberg endangering your way tomorrow, but quite probably sin will come into your pathway. How will you act in regard to it? I hope that none of you will be confused by surrounding fogs of bad advice, or deceived into thinking that you see and know all the danger and may venture near. Be a careful mariner, keep a sharp lookout, be not confused nor deceived and you will escape disaster and the hidden perils of sin.

MEMORY VERSE:—" *Little children, let no man deceive you.*"—I John 3:7.

XXXII

COOPERATION



Fig. 1



Fig. 2

NOTE:—Roughly sketch in advance an outline map of the United States as in Fig. 1.

I SHOULD like you to come away with me to-day on an exploring trip to the hill country of Minnesota. (Point to map.) The country is covered with green forest, and we find ourselves near a little group of lakes. The ground is marshy and covered with lush grass; little streams gurgle here and there. Here is one flowing out of Little Elk Lake (draw as in Fig. 2)—silent, lonesome, so small that it sometimes almost loses itself in the reeds and wild rice. We follow it to Lake Itaska (draw as in Fig. 2) and find it again flowing out on the other side—much

larger here; quite two feet deep and twenty feet wide, yet still so small as to be invisible on an ordinary map.

Now perhaps you wish to ask me why I take such an extraordinary interest in this obscure little stream; why I have dragged you off to far-away Minnesota to see it and have tramped you over this lonesome countryside through mud and marsh, rushes and reeds. Why is it worth looking at?

My young friends, this that I have shown you is the beginning of the mighty Mississippi River; this is the source of the Father of Waters, the chief water-way of our continent, the main artery of the United States. This little stream is the Mississippi River.

But, you say, that is impossible. The Mississippi is a tremendous river, so strong that the mightiest machines which men have made cannot hold it back, a river whose power equals that of millions of horses, a river that washes away hundreds of acres of land every year, upon whose waters thousands of vessels float, upon whose banks are tremendous cities. How can this little stream do all these mighty things? Shall I show you? Here are the two little lakes, (point to map) so small that no ordinary map shows them, and here flowing out from them the smaller Mississippi. But the Mississippi does not flow long

alone. Here comes another small stream to join it, here a second, then a third, (draw as in Fig. 2) and the river is not as small as it was. Everywhere little streams come running to join together. Always as it flows along the river's strength is increased by the addition of the strength of the little streams it meets. Far off to the west and away out in the east other little streams are joining to make great rivers and these great rivers come down to meet the Mississippi, too. Here joins the great Missouri (draw as in Fig. 2), here the Ohio adds the wealth of its rushing water (draw as in Fig. 2), here comes in the Arkansas and the Red, and at last, glorious in the majesty of its irresistible strength, the noble river meets the sea. (Draw as in Fig. 2.) And still, when we stop to analyze it, what is the Mississippi? It is no more than the joined strength of many little brooks. We have studied the Mississippi together today in order to learn a lesson which it has to teach us—the lesson of cooperation. Cooperation means working together, and it is a lesson which few children know, and which even grown-ups often fail to understand. Just as the little streams join together, each doing its small part and all together forming the irresistible power of the Mississippi, so men and women, boys and girls should bind themselves in some noble cause, each

contributing his share of strength, however insignificant it may seem. If all the folks who talk about bringing the world to Jesus would just do a bit of work toward it, even a tiny bit, the power of their combined effort would sweep that great task to completion. If only all the people who are anxious about ending war would cooperate even in a small way toward that end, war could never curse the world again. How the work of the church would flourish, how misery and wretchedness would vanish away if only each of us would do his small part in the mighty task. Don't withhold your part because you think it too small, don't fail to join in because you can't do very much. Cooperate, and all working together we may do mighty deeds of which heretofore we have not dared to dream.

XXXIII

THE DESTRUCTIVE POWER OF LITTLE THINGS

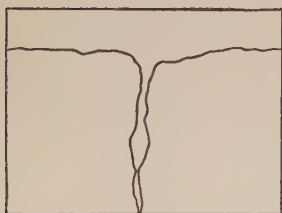


Fig. 1

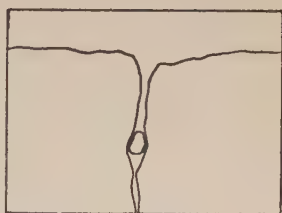


Fig. 2

A very impressive picture appeared not long ago in one of our leading magazines. It was a picture of a great rock which was being split apart. (Draw rock as in Fig. 1.) The task of splitting this rock would probably be a stupendous one for you or me, with whatever tools we might choose to use; yet in this case the rock was being broken by—what do you think? By a tiny pebble, which was lodged right down here in the crack. (Draw pebble as in Fig. 2.) The article said that night and day, year in and year out, little pebbles are at work in thousands of places wedging apart mighty masses of rock. Both pebble and rock shrink and swell as the thermom-

eter rises and falls. Whenever there is a chance the pebble settles a little, and it always moves down. In the course of years the crack in which the pebble has found a resting-place is forced open more and more and the sides of the rock are pushed widely apart. The little pebble rends the huge stone.

Oh, the destructive power of little things! Daily, all around us, in apparently insignificant ways, often unnoticed, the breaking down process goes on. It is the microscopic germ which brings the dread disease, it is the infinitesimal air bubble which flaws the steel beam, it is the unregarded small fault which brings ultimate ruin to a noble character. We recognize the big sins, and are able to resist them, but it is the little sin, like the small pebble, that day by day goes on in its destructive course. They seem so harmless, the little sins. Just a white lie, for instance. What harm can it do anyone? Yet it marks the beginning of a lax habit, it develops a disregard for truth, that grows, slowly and quietly, until at last one day to our surprise we discover a character destroyed by an apparently insignificant fault.

Many children in the same way get into the habit of cheating. How easy it is to cheat in school! No one knows about it and it does not appear to make much difference—it is a little

thing. Indeed it is a little thing and it, too, like the small pebble, has destructive power. When the habit of cheating gets into a boy's life it is certain to endanger, if not ruin, his character. Cheating is dishonest and people do not like to deal with dishonest men. (Expand.) For your own sake and for the sake of those who love you take heed to the little sins. Do not let them find their way into your life. Remember that no sin is little in its possibilities.

If you fix your eyes on Jesus, if you try to follow His example, and seek His help and inspiration, you will not be troubled about the little sins that work so much harm in so many lives. Jesus came into the world to be our pattern of life and to save us from all the things that would destroy our souls. He is our strength and hope.

MEMORY VERSE:—" *I can do all things in him that strengtheneth me.*"—Phil. 4: 13.

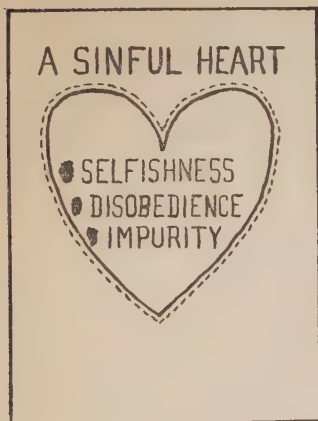
PART II

CUT-OUT TALKS

(See preface for explanation)

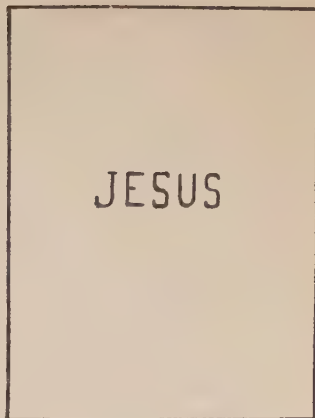
XXXIV

A SINFUL HEART MADE CLEAN



Upper Sheet

FIG. 1



Lower Sheet

FIG. 2

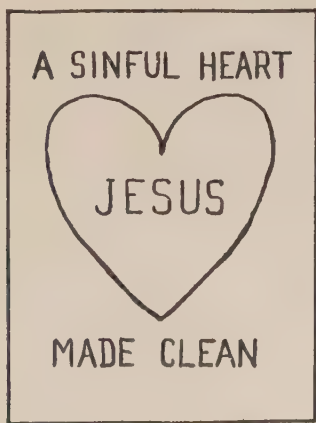
IF I should ask for a boy or girl to help me with my talk by coming up here and drawing a big heart on this sheet of white paper, I wonder how many of you could do it? I am glad to see so many willing helpers but I think that this time I'll draw the heart myself. (Draw as in Fig. 1.) If I had asked you to do it, how many of you would have drawn a heart shaped just that

way? It is a curious thing that although almost every one thinks that that is the way to draw a heart, a real heart isn't like that. A real heart does not have such a shape and is not that size. However this would do for a picture of most hearts except for one thing. I am sorry to say that to be like most people's hearts, this clean white picture is not the right colour. I have found so many boys and girls, men and women whose hearts have on them large, dark spots. On some hearts there is the dark spot of SELFISHNESS (print as in Fig. 1 and expand). On others there is the stain of DISOBEDIENCE (print as in Fig. 1 and expand). Still other hearts are blotted with IMPURITY (print as in Fig. 1 and expand).

We must avoid these things, children, for every one of them harms and blackens until your heart, instead of being the clean, pure one you began with, is a heart like this—A SINFUL HEART (print as in Fig. 1). When your heart gets as black as this one, there is nothing you can do to rub the stains off. No one on earth can cleanse such a heart. If cleansing depended on you, you would carry it with you the rest of your life, a disgrace and a sorrow to you. But this does not mean that there is no way of removing such dark spots. There is one who can cleanse a sinful heart and that one is Jesus.

Wherever Jesus goes He makes things clean and pure. If you let Him come into your heart (begin to cut on dotted line) He will cast away all the stains of sin and you will have a clean, pure heart, whiter than snow. Thus your heart, once a sinful heart, will be MADE CLEAN (print as in Fig. 3) and will stay clean because Jesus has come in.

MEMORY VERSE:—“*Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.*”—Isaiah 1:18.

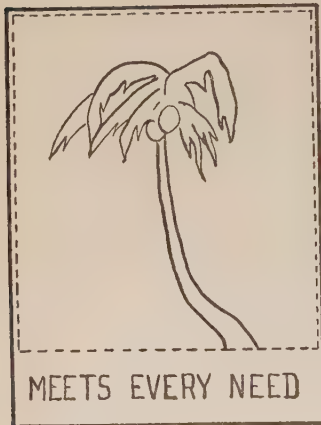


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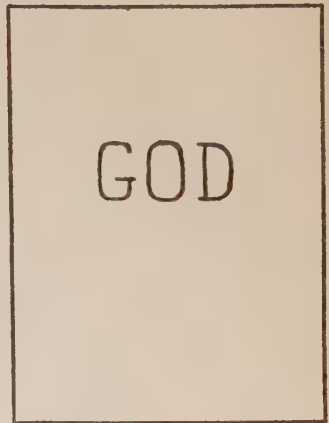
FIG. 3

XXXV

THE SUFFICIENCY OF GOD



Upper Sheet
FIG. 1



Lower Sheet
FIG. 2

NOTE:—The tree in Fig. 1 should be drawn in advance and covered with a blank sheet of paper, which is to be removed at the beginning of the talk.

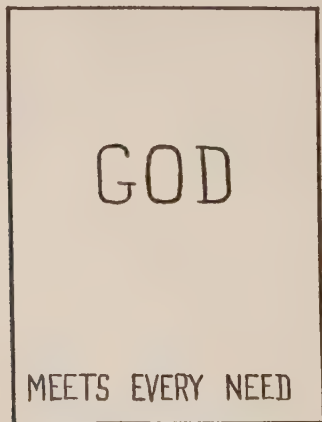
THIS is a picture of a very remarkable tree. I do not suppose that any of you have ever seen a tree that resembled this one. Its tall, slender trunk, and the odd bunch of leaves at the top are quite unlike those of any tree that grows in

this vicinity. It is not because of its peculiar appearance, however, that I called this a remarkable tree, for the mere appearance of things is, after all, of small importance. I call this tree remarkable because of its wonderful usefulness. It is a coconut tree and it grows in tropical regions, that is, down near the equator. The natives of the countries down there have few stores to go to for food, clothing and other necessities. They must find or make almost everything they use. The wonderful thing about the coconut tree is that it supplies the people with all they need. It supplies them with lumber to build their homes, their boats and their utensils. When the leaves of the tree are young, they are eaten for food; when they are old, they are woven into hats, clothes, baskets, bedding and thatch. The ribs of the older leaves are made into spears, arrows, brooms, torches and paddles. The flowers of the tree give the natives vinegar and sugar. The fruit of the palm yields food, oil, cord and matting. It is said that even the roots are sometimes used for food. The tree **MEETS EVERY NEED** (print as in Fig. 1) of the natives.

The coconut palm is indeed a remarkable tree. Yet it is only one of the multitudes of the beneficent wonders of nature. And about them all there is a secret; something that is behind them. I am going to show you what is behind this tree

(cut along dotted line). It is GOD. God gives life to the tree; He sends the rain and the sun which make it grow. The coconut tree and all the other marvellous things of nature which serve man are tokens of God's love and his care for us. Through them, and in many other ways, God meets every need (point to diagram) of His children, both physical and spiritual. In Him we can find strength to meet temptation; through Him we are enabled to live nobly and unselfishly.

MEMORY VERSE:—“*And my God shall supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.*”—Phil. 4: 19.

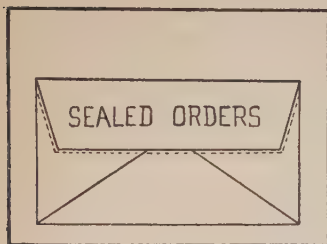


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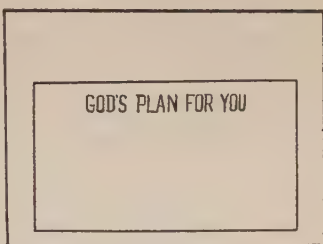
FIG. 3

XXXVI

SEALED ORDERS OR GOD'S PLAN FOR EVERY LIFE



Upper Sheet
FIG. 1



Lower Sheet
FIG. 2

DURING the world war it was very necessary that the news of the route and destination of certain ships should be kept secret. In order to avoid the possibility of the least word becoming known to any one about their movements the vessels were sent out under SEALED ORDERS. (Print as in Fig. 1.) The Navy Department would map out the entire trip and put the directions for it in a sealed envelope. (Draw as in Fig. 1.) Just before sailing time this envelope was given to the captain with instructions not to open it until the vessel had sailed many miles

and reached the high seas. Thus the ship left port without one single man, from the captain down the line, having any idea where he was bound for—he did not know whether he was setting out for England or France or the Mediterranean or some other place. But all went bravely forth; they were under orders from their country and were ready to go wherever they were sent. When the ship had reached the required distance the captain would open the sealed envelope. He would study carefully the instructions it contained and then direct the movement of the ship accordingly.

Every boy and girl sets out in life like a ship sailing under sealed orders. God has a plan for every life and in good time every person will know what it is. In the meantime he must go forward without that knowledge, as the captain did who had not yet reached the point where he might open his sealed envelope. While one does not know what the plan is, let him use his time and talents wisely so that he will be ready and prepared to do the work to which God calls him. All the happenings of your life are part of the unknown plan. Moses did not know that while living at Pharaoh's court he was preparing to become the great leader of his people, but he was. Moses never guessed that the years spent in the wilderness were preparing him to become

the liberator of the children of Israel, yet they were. From the moment Moses was found in the basket by Pharaoh's daughter until the days he tended sheep in the wilderness he was being prepared for that happy hour when through the burning bush his sealed orders were opened for him and God's plan for his life was revealed.

When tasks seem purposeless and unpleasant, when you are tempted to do things in a slipshod way remember that you are like a ship sailing under sealed orders. Go forth in the spirit of the sailors who did not question but performed their duty bravely and courageously. Do the immediate tasks cheerily and joyously bearing in mind that in this way you are preparing yourself for the time when the sealed orders shall be opened (cut along dotted line, open envelope, showing printing), and you shall see, as Moses saw, GOD'S PLAN FOR YOU (expand).



Talk Completed

FIG. 3

XXXVII

RESOLUTIONS—A NEW YEAR'S TALK

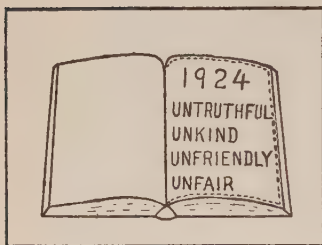


FIG. 1

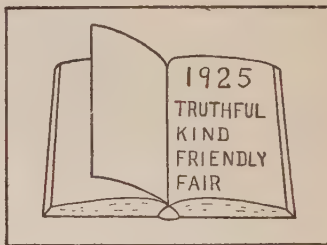


FIG. 2

I HAVE something to tell you about yourself that will astonish you. What I say may seem strange to you, but it is true. Every boy and girl in this room is an author. Every one of you is writing a Book (draw as in Fig. 1)—a book telling the story of your own life. The deeds you do, the words you speak, the thoughts you think, all these furnish the material for your book. Most of the time you and I just go on living carelessly and indifferently without stopping to consider that what we say and do is making part of a record. But whether we think about our actions or not, people are reading the words

we write and will read them for many years to come. You cannot close up the book of your life and put it away out of sight; this book of yours is one that must stay open and all who come in contact with you are sure to read it.

I see what is written in many of these books. I shall tell you about what I have seen in some of them. While I am telling you, suppose you think of your own book and what you have been writing there lately.

One of the things I find written in some children's books is that they have been **UNTRUTHFUL**. (Print as in Fig. 1.) How this spoils the story of their lives! It is like a great big inkspot on the page of the book. (Expand.)

Another thing I often see and which I am sure displeases Jesus, is that some children have been **UNKIND**. (Print as in Fig. 1.) They have been unkind to their brothers and sisters or they have been unkind to animals. This makes the book unpleasant reading. (Expand.)

The records other children have written show that they have been **UNFRIENDLY** (print as in Fig. 1 and expand). Some have been **UNFAIR** (print as in Fig. 1 and expand).

As you look through the pages of your book do you see that you have entered any of these unchristian qualities about yourself? Have you been showing that you are untruthful or unkind,

unfriendly or unfair? Have you said one or more of these things about yourself? If you have, are you not sorry? Wouldn't you like to write a more beautiful story about yourself? You can if you want to do so. All you need do is to stop writing the old story. If this represents 1924 (print as in Fig. 1) in your book, turn a new leaf (cut along dotted line and turn page. If necessary the turned over page may be made fast by use of a pin) and begin to write a new story. Ask God to help you. He will forget the past and give you the strength and wisdom to make a fresh beginning.

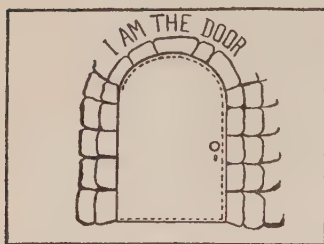
I should like to suggest some of the facts you ought to put into the new story which you are to begin this year. (Print 1925 as in Fig. 2.) The story ought to show that you are **TRUTHFUL**, (print as in Fig. 2 and expand). This would make good reading for it is a pleasure to meet a boy or girl who always tells the truth. Your book should reveal, too, that you have been **KIND** (print as in Fig. 2) to your teachers and parents. (Expand.) No quality is more becoming to a child than kindness. "Kind hearts are more than coronets." Your book will have increased interest if it shows that you have been **FRIENDLY** (print as in Fig. 2 and expand). Friendliness, like the fragrance of the rose, sweetens life and adds to its joys. One other

point should appear in your book—that you have been FAIR (print as in Fig. 2 and expand) in all your dealings. If you have these in your book at the end of 1925, when you come to read what you have written you will find that you have a good story, of which you can justly be proud. Since you are writing a book, make it a good book; since you are going to live a life, make it a life worth while, a life lived according to the will of God and dedicated to the service of humanity.

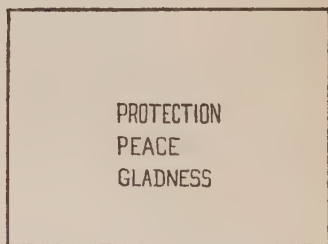
MEMORY VERSE:—“*I will behave myself wisely in a perfect way.*”—Psa. 101: 2.

XXXVIII

JESUS THE DOOR TO GOD'S FOLD



Upper Sheet
FIG. 1



Lower Sheet
FIG. 2

ONE of the most common things of everyday life is a door (draw as in Fig. 1). We use doors constantly and we see them many, many times in the course of a single day. And yet I wonder how many of you have ever stopped to think of how necessary a door is to one's happiness and safety.

Jesus once told a story in which a door was the means of spoiling the happiness of certain young women. You remember the parable of the ten virgins. Five, who were late, could not go into the marriage feast because the door had been shut. How costly to them was the closed door!

A number of years ago, perhaps before some of you were born, there was a fire in a shirtwaist factory in New York City. Many girls were employed there. When the girls learned of the fire they went to a door to make their escape. They found the door locked and they all perished. A closed door in this instance meant a sad fate for many.

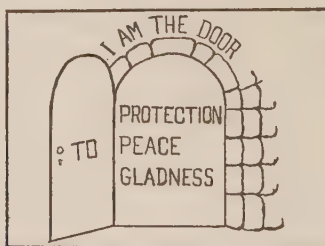
How important doors are after all and how essential that they be open at the right time! I do not know what we would do if some of the doors we are accustomed to seeing open were closed. What would we do, for example, if the doors to the churches were always closed? What would we do if the doors to the business offices were bolted? What would we do if the doors to the hospitals and schools were locked? We need to have all these doors open for our growth, comfort, health and education.

Jesus once spoke of Himself as being a door. It was not a house door, however, He had in mind. It was the door of a sheepfold. As He watched the shepherds taking care of their sheep He had come to understand how important such a door was. He knew that once the sheep entered through that door they would be safe from harm and free from any disturbance. So Jesus thought of Himself as such a door. He said, "I AM THE DOOR" (print as in Fig. 1).

Jesus is the door to what? He is the door to God's fold. Let us open the door (cut on dotted line) and see what there is for one in God's fold. The open door leads to PROTECTION—protection from evil and temptation (expand). It is an entrance to PEACE—peace which passeth all understanding (expand). It also leads to GLADNESS (expand).

Is it not wonderful that Jesus is willing to be a door for you and me? Wouldn't you like to enter the fold through Jesus' love and enjoy the protection, peace and gladness to be found in there? I pray that every one of you may enter into God's blessed fold.

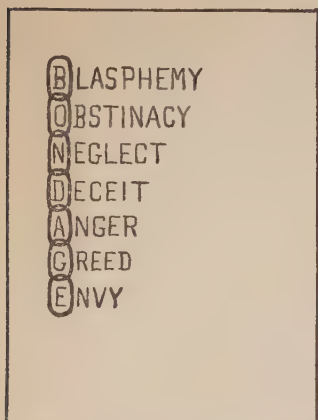
MEMORY VERSE:—"I am the door; by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and go out, and shall find pasture."—John 10: 9.



Talk Completed
FIG. 3

XXXIX

FREEDOM THROUGH THE TRUTH



Upper Sheet

FIG. 1



Lower Sheet

FIG. 2

DID you ever read "Uncle Tom's Cabin?" If you have not you should at the earliest opportunity. It is one of the most interesting books ever written. It was written before the Civil War and tells many sad stories about the treatment of slaves. The slaves were often very cruelly abused and one cannot read about the unhappy lives they lived without feeling very

sorry for them all, including even those who had kind masters.

Slavery is one of those many evils against which the human heart revolts. If one reads the history of the world very carefully he will learn that our greatest wars were fought against some form of slavery—political, social, religious or industrial. Our forefathers bled and died for freedom and our proudest boast is that ours is the land of the free. Yet today, in this fair land of ours, there are slaves—many of them—and their master is more cruel and harder than any the humblest and poorest slave ever had. His name is SIN; the slaves of SIN are held and bound by heavy chains. The queer part of it is that the slaves make these chains and put them on themselves. These chains are small at first, but day by day new links are added and they become larger and larger, heavier and heavier. By and by they get so heavy that the poor slaves are bowed down by them. Then it is but a short time before these weighty chains pull their helpless victims so low that they grovel in the dirt.

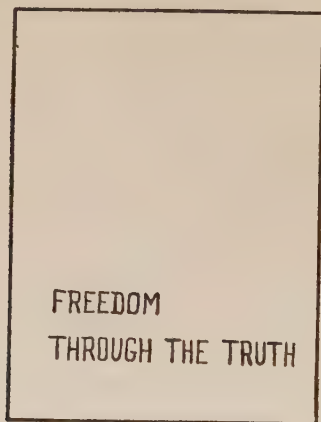
It is a terrible bondage, the bondage of sin. Yet, every day some foolish boy or girl begins to slowly fasten upon himself the fearful slave-chain. "It's smart to swear—I'm not afraid," says the boy, and he closes upon himself the first link in the chain, BLASPHEMY (print

as in Fig. 1 and draw first link. Continue talk, drawing succeeding links in same manner). Thus the links put on one at a time have at last made the chain of bondage (point to letters in links which spell BONDAGE) from which there is no escape. It is a real hardship to live thus enchained. One is held back from doing many beautiful things. He is handicapped for all of his life and misses the many privileges which are enjoyed by those who are free.

Will you let such a chain shackle you? Are you going to let it drag you down into disgrace and despair? Do you want to be a slave to the hideous master SIN? Some of you perhaps are not bound by this chain. Those who are, I am sure will want to break the chain and tear it off link by link. Jesus has given us the means to destroy this chain. He said, "You shall know the Truth and the Truth shall make you free." Learn the Truth from Jesus, follow Him, pattern after Him, accept Him and through His strength and power you will be able to break any link, however strong. One by one the links will snap off—the link of blasphemy will go, (begin to cut out BLASPHEMY, OBSTINACY, etc.) then obstinacy will fall off, etc., until at last there will be no chain to hold you and you will stand in perfect FREEDOM, (this word will appear when the last link—ENVY—is cut out), a freedom which can

come only **THROUGH THE TRUTH** (print as in Fig. 3) as revealed in Jesus Christ (expand).

MEMORY VERSE:—“*Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.*”—John 8: 32.

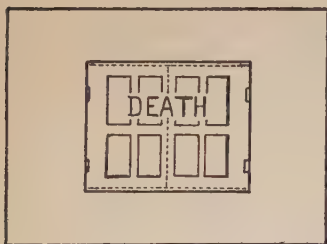


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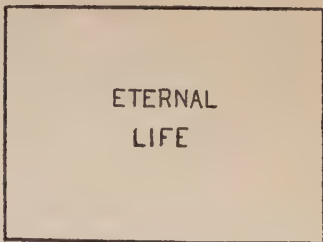
FIG. 3

XL

DEATH—A DOOR TO ETERNAL LIFE



Upper Sheet
FIG. 1



Lower Sheet
FIG. 2

DID you ever stop to think of the many things of which people are afraid? They are afraid of all manner of things: of big things, like lions; and of little things, like mice. People are afraid of things they see and of things they do not see. I have even heard of boys and girls who are afraid of the dark. Some folks are afraid of one thing, some of another; but there is one thing I find that almost everybody fears. Most people fear the thing we call **DEATH** (print as in Fig. 1).

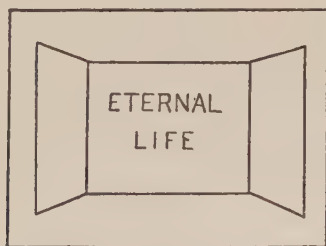
Recently as I was walking through lower Manhattan I passed a house where one of the dear ones of the family had died. The man who had

passed away must have been a good man and was loved by many for a great crowd had gathered at the door, waiting to see the funeral procession. I became interested and waited also. In a few minutes the procession began. It had hardly started when shrieks and screams resounded through the street. The wife and relatives of the dead man had become violently hysterical with grief so that their friends could not restrain their outcries. I said to myself, "It is a pity that these people do not understand what death is, for if they did they would not carry on in such a frantic way." Boys and girls, death is not anything to be afraid of. It is not the terrible thing some people think it to be. Death is a door (draw outline of door around the word DEATH as in Fig. 1). What is a door for? It is to be opened to make a passageway from one place to another. Let us open the door we have drawn and see to what it leads (cut along dotted lines and open door). There—death is a door through which we may pass to ETERNAL LIFE.

Life would be hopeless if death ended all and then we might well fear death. But we are thankful that this is not so. We know that for the Christian there is a better life to come. Jesus won the great victory over death and all those who follow Him are assured of a share in that victory. In the book of Revelation we read,

“And God shall wipe away every tear from their eyes; and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain, any more.” To those of us who have this great hope death is not a thing to dread, because to us it is a door that leads to a life of joy and peace and happiness with God.

MEMORY VERSE:—“*O death, where is thy victory? O death, where is thy sting? The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law; but thanks be to God who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*”—I Cor. 15: 55-57.

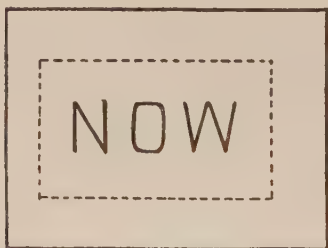


Talk Completed

FIG. 3

XLI

THE MAGIC WORD—"NOW"



"I AM going to be a great architect," said Jimmie. "When?" I asked, and Jimmie answered, "When I grow up." "I'll be a good boy—tomorrow," said Philip to his teacher. How often you have heard boys and girls talk about the great and good things they intend to do—tomorrow or bye and bye! Probably you have said just such things yourself. Those who put off until tomorrow never accomplish anything worth while in this life. To travel the road of Bye and Bye, someone has said, will land you in the city of Nowhere. No, those who expect to do anything or reach anywhere in the future must apply themselves Now (print). Now

is the time to work, to plan, to prepare for what you hope to do later on. "Do it now," should be your slogan in life. Many business men have adopted this motto. They have these words in a prominent place in the office where they may readily be seen. Do you know why? It is because they have found in their experience that this word Now about which we have been talking is a magic word. It has done wonders for many ambitious people. (Expand.)

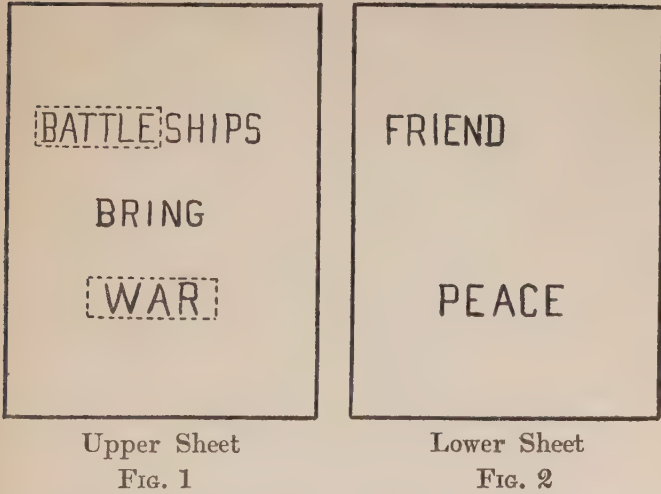
You seem like such bright and earnest boys and girls that I think I will show you the magic in the word. (Cut along dotted line and hold the sheet with the word facing the students.) As you look at the word there is nothing unusual about it. But if you are in the secret you will notice a change, you will observe that the word Now becomes something else and yet remains the same. You are beginning to wonder what happens. James you look (hold paper to light and let the pupil look at sheet from reverse side) and tell us what you see. You see the word WON. (Hold it so all can see.) There, you have learned the magic of the word—Now becomes WON. If you do your tasks Now, if you study your lessons Now, you'll soon find that you have WON—won the admiration of your parents and friends and won the success for which you strove (expand).

This magic word also works in your spiritual life. If you accept Jesus Christ Now as your Lord and Master you will quickly realize that here too you have WON something—won for yourself the rich blessings and privileges which only a Christian enjoys. Now is the time. (Expand.)

MEMORY VERSE:—“*Now is the acceptable time; behold now is the day of salvation.*”—II Cor. 6:2.

XLII

BUILDING WORLD FRIENDSHIPS



Upper Sheet
FIG. 1

Lower Sheet
FIG. 2

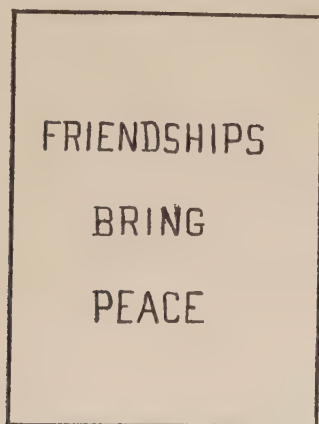
ONE of the greatest events of recent years in the history of our country was the International Conference on the Limitation of Armament held at Washington. I wonder how many of you read about that conference! And I wonder, too, whether you realized its vast importance. It was the biggest step ever taken looking to the prevention of wars. You will recall that one of

the principal results of that conference was the agreement made by the leading nations that they would not build any new BATTLESHIPS (print as Fig. 1) for a period of ten years. The world was glad to receive this good news for it has grown tired of spending millions upon millions for battleships, and what's more it has learned to hate war. Let us hope when the ten years have expired that the nations will agree never to build any more battleships for the reason that battleships BRING (print as in Fig. 1) WAR (print as in Fig. 1 and expand).

But to stop building battleships does not mean that the nations should cease building ships. There are certain kinds of ships that I think the world should be encouraged to build. Instead of battleships (cut out BATTLE on upper sheet) the nations should build FRIENDSHIPS. Then in place of ships which bring war we would have friendships which bring PEACE (cut out WAR). If the world would only dedicate all its power and resources to building these kind of ships what a happy place this earth would be!

We all can have a part in the building of these new ships. Some of you have already had a share in this work. When you sent your old clothes on "Bundle Day" to the Committee on Near East Relief you were helping to build friendships. When you contributed to the Japanese Relief

Fund you were taking an active part in the construction of these ships which bring peace and good-will among the nations. Every time the United States sends a food ship to Armenia or Russia she is building one of those indestructible friendships which the world needs so much. The great task of the future for you and for me is to help remove the causes which create war and to support the movements which have for their aim the building of world friendships. (Expand.)

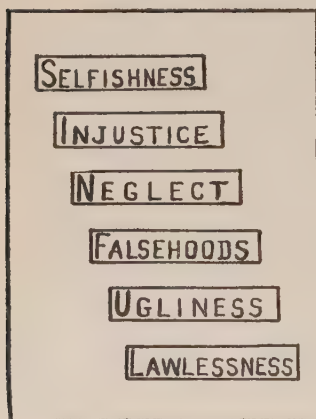


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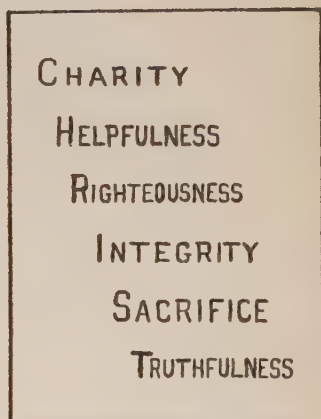
FIG. 3

XLIII

THE MIND A PICTURE GALLERY



Upper Sheet
FIG. 1



Lower Sheet
FIG. 2

NOTE:—Cover each word in Fig. 1 with a strip of paper, to be removed as talk develops. The first letter of each word on both sheets should be red.

How many of you have ever visited the Metropolitan Museum in New York? I am sure you will remember the picture gallery there. It is the most wonderful gallery in America and one of the finest collections in the world.

As you pause and gaze at some of those pictures you find it hard to move on and stop looking at them, they are so beautiful and inspiring. You feel as though you could not leave them, but must take them down and carry them off with you to keep. Shall I tell you a secret? The last time I was there I did take some of them home with me. Yes, indeed, I did. But I did not harm the collection at all, for you see I carried them up here, in my mind. I have a very large collection of pictures in my mind, and so have you in yours, even though you do not realize it. Try shutting your eyes and see if you cannot see a picture of something—your mother's face, or an American flag. I know you can, for all our minds are picture galleries, and every day of our lives we add new pictures to them. We can choose the pictures ourselves and put in or take out whichever we desire, good or bad.

If I could look into your mind I wonder what kind of pictures I would see. Sometimes by your actions I can tell, and your father and mother can tell, the character of the mental pictures you are carrying. Most of the time, however, we cannot tell. That does not mean they are not seen. Our Father in Heaven who sees all things can see into your mind. What are the pictures he beholds there? Does he see the one so many children hang up, the picture of SELF-

ISHNESS? (Remove strip of paper and give a short word picture illustrating this.) Does He see that awful picture named INJUSTICE? (Remove strip and illustrate as before.) And what about that very common picture—NEGLECT? Is that there? (Remove strip and illustrate. Continue in same manner with the remaining pictures—FALSEHOODS, UGLINESS and LAWLESSNESS.) If you have these pictures in your collection I will show you what kind of a mind you have. (Point to the capitals in red and read SINFUL.) Such a collection is worthless. These are pictures to be ashamed of and should cause one to hang his head in disgrace. If you have such pictures in your mind, take them down at once; throw them out and put up beautiful, valuable ones in their place—put up pictures that people will admire and will long to look at.

I would suggest that in the place of SELFISHNESS you hang up the picture of CHARITY (cut out SELFISHNESS); for INJUSTICE substitute HELPFULNESS (cut out INJUSTICE); for NEGLECT put in RIGHTEOUSNESS (cut); for FALSEHOODS insert INTEGRITY (cut); for UGLINESS add SACRIFICE (cut); for LAWLESSNESS set up the picture of TRUTHFULNESS (cut).

If your collection is like this, you have in your mind something more splendid by far and more valuable than the Metropolitan Museum with all

its rare and beautiful masterpieces. I am sure we are all anxious to have such a beautiful collection of pictures hanging on the walls of our minds. We can have them if we ask CHRIST (point to red letters) to come into our lives and let Him decide the kind of pictures we should hang up in our galleries.

MEMORY VERSE:—" *Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honourable, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.*"—Phil. 4: 8.

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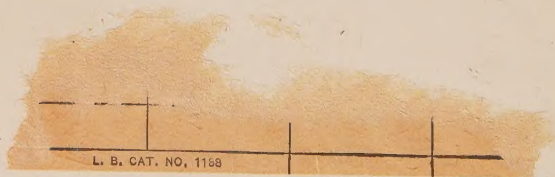
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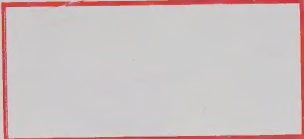
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